



COMPETITION APPEAL TRIBUNAL

PRACTICE DIRECTION 1/2025

BUNDLES FOR HEARINGS

The Tribunal is concerned to reduce the proliferation of lengthy paper bundles, and to ensure that all bundles (electronic or paper) should be convenient to use at hearings. Bundles should contain only documents and authorities that are necessary for the hearing. The preparation of bundles requires a high level of cooperation, and it is the duty of the parties and their legal representatives to cooperate accordingly. Preparation of bundles should comply with the following principles:

1. At least 2 weeks before any hearing¹, and 3 weeks before any trial, the parties should contact the Registry to ascertain to what extent the Tribunal requires the bundles of documents and authorities for the hearing to be in hard copy and which bundles may be provided only electronically.
2. Electronic bundles should be in .pdf form but large electronic files can be slow to transmit and unwieldy to use and should therefore be avoided.
3. Whether the bundles are in hard copy or electronic form, there should be separate bundles or files covering the following:
 - a. Skeleton arguments
 - b. Relevant pleadings
 - c. Witness statements and expert reports, excluding exhibits
 - d. When appropriate, inter-solicitor correspondence, containing only those letters which are likely to be referred to
 - e. When appropriate, a core bundle of key documents. But in no case should the core bundle exceed 700 pages without the express permission of the Tribunal.
4. Where bundles (e.g. pleadings or witness statements) have previously been provided or transmitted to the Tribunal, the parties and the Registry will consider whether further complete bundles or files are required or whether any supplementary documents can conveniently be added to the existing bundles or files with a replacement index.

¹ Where a matter is urgent and a hearing has been listed at short notice, the parties should contact the Registry as soon as possible in advance of that hearing to ascertain the Tribunal's requirements as regards bundles.

5. Where a core bundle of key documents is provided as set out in paragraph(3)(e), it should be separately paginated but also bear the page number of the main bundles.
6. Where hard copy bundles are provided, paragraph 9.56 of the Tribunal's Guide to Proceedings (2015) contains requirements which should be complied with. In particular:
 - a. Each bundle should have the bundle number and summary title:
 - i. in large bold lettering on the spine; and
 - ii. on a label at the top left of the inside front cover, so as to be visible when the bundle is open.
 - b. All pages within each tab should be double sided except where they comprise a spreadsheet or table for which two or more pages need to be viewed together.
7. Where electronic bundles are provided:
 - a. Each bundle should be given a concise title identifying its contents.
 - b. All sections in the bundle and all significant documents should be bookmarked with an appropriate description of the document.
8. Where bundles are provided in both electronic and hard copy, the pagination of the documents should be the same.
9. Any bundle of authorities, whether electronic or hard copy, should always be provided separately. A pdf copy of the original report with headnote should be used for reported decisions: see Practice Direction (Citation of Authorities) [2012] 1 WLR 780 on the correct source to use.
10. Failure to observe all requirements in respect of bundles may result in them being returned to the relevant party for them to be put in order and there may be consequences with regard to costs should any delay occur in the proceedings as a result.
11. This Practice Direction supersedes paragraphs 5-7 of Practice Direction 1/2021.

The Hon Mr Justice Roth
Acting President

17 March 2025