

## Graeme Hall discusses the unique OfficeMax and COS courts case with the NBR

10 November 2017

Graeme Hall, partner at Buddle Findlay was interviewed by the NBR. Australian firm Complete Office Suppliers' (COS) has objected to the merger of OfficeMax and Staples, which would occur if US private equity firm Platinum Equity, which already owns Staples, is able to buy OfficeMax. "Ordinarily, if there is an issue arising in relation to a substantial lessening of competition in the context of a merger or acquisition, you'd expect the regulator [Commerce Commission] to address and deal with that," says Graeme. "In this instance a private party (an interested party) has taken the step itself, and this is open to anyone to do that but it is a bit unusual."

Listen to for the full interview below.

### Auckland

188 Quay Street  
Auckland 1010

PO Box 1433  
Auckland 1140  
New Zealand

P: +64 9 358 2555  
F: +64 9 358 2055

### Wellington

Aon Centre  
1 Willis Street  
Wellington 6011

PO Box 2694  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand

P: +64 4 499 4242  
F: +64 4 499 4141

### Christchurch

83 Victoria Street  
Christchurch 8013

PO Box 322  
Christchurch 8140  
New Zealand

P: +64 3 379 1747  
F: +64 3 379 5659