
Antitrust and the Internet

1999-12-17

Internet companies increasingly are faced with antitrust issues as their businesses expand and as many enter into collaborative joint venture relationships. Antitrust issues relating to Internet access affect telephone and cable companies, Internet service providers, merchants and consumers, and the question of open access to the Internet is being litigated on several fronts. Industry standards for the basic functioning of the Internet, as well as e-commerce and security, also raise antitrust concerns. Standards, while essential, have the potential to exclude companies which have non-conforming technology or, at best, to raise their costs in achieving conformance. Finally, mergers of Internet companies are a daily event, and some have caught the attention of the antitrust enforcement agencies.

Members of Hale and Dorr's Antitrust and Trade Regulation Practice Group and the firm's Internet Practice Group recently presented a program, entitled "Antitrust and the Internet" to a joint meeting of the Boston Bar Association's Antitrust Committee and its Computer and Internet Committee.

Click [here](#) to review this presentation.

For further information about that presentation, please contact

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