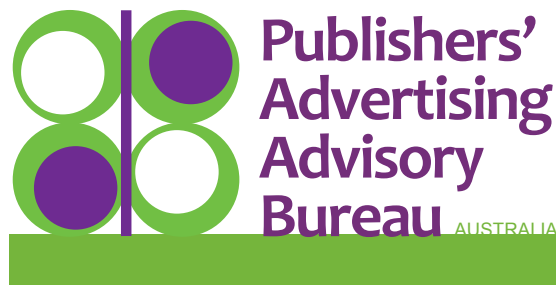




ALERT

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To promote, protect and further the interest of its publisher members; to encourage high standards of advertising and to provide an advisory service and reference point for its members on industry regulation and advertising matters

Infinity Auto Imports in NSW fined \$25,679

JUNE 2011

Karunanayaka Perera, owner of Infinity Auto Imports, was last month convicted of unlicensed motor dealing involving 28 vehicles was ordered to pay \$25,679 by Parramatta Local Court.

Over 17 months, between January 2008 and May 2009, Mr Perera acquired 25 motor vehicles, 21 of them from motor dealer auction houses as repairable write-offs.

During the same period, he sold 28 vehicles to members of the public without being appropriately licensed to do so.

Mr Perera holds a Motor Vehicle Wholesalers licence that only entitles him to sell motor vehicles to financiers or licensed motor dealers.

Mr Perera was fined \$1,500 and ordered to pay \$23,750 to the Motor Dealers Compensation Fund. Costs equalled \$429.

The Minister said Mr Perera should have known the law and operated within it. "Traders must be appropriately licensed and Fair Trading regularly inspects the market to ensure compliance," he said.

"Buying a car is a significant investment for consumers and they have a right to honest dealing. "Motor dealers are expected to adhere to strict obligations to sell vehicles in a reasonable and safe condition, with associated warranties and consumer protections in place.

The *Motor Dealers Act 1974* requires a motor dealer's licence to be held by any person selling or offering for sale to any other person, more than four motor vehicles within a 12 month period.

Breaches for unlicensed motor dealing can attract fines of up to \$11,000 in the Local Court and \$110,000 in the Supreme Court.