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## Telstra loses pricing battle

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TELSTRA will be forced to provide internet service providers with fairly priced access to its infrastructure, following a ruling by the competition watchdog.

The ruling from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission comes after a three-year dispute with South Australian company Adam Internet about the cost of sharing Telstra's network.

Adam Internet managing director Greg Hicks said new prices applied by the ACCC would level the playing field in the ISP market.

Mr Hicks said savings would be immediately passed on to customers, reducing set-up fees on new ADSL accounts by up to \$50.

"Telstra has resisted our access disputes vigorously, and the legal costs to proceed have been enormous, but we always believed this battle was worthwhile," he said.

Telstra said yesterday it would appeal against the decision.