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ACCC delay creates split pricing

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DELAYS in a ruling by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission have resulted in a split pricing system for internet service providers.

Costs for "naked" broadband – where customers do not need to rent a fixed line for access – vary between companies because Telstra issued a new pric-

ing structure midway through deliberations by the ACCC.

Some ISPs are operating under the new price structure while others are forced to remain under the old system.

SA company Adam Internet was one of the ISPs forced to retain the previous pricing structure. The business faces costs almost double those of competitors because the new

system was introduced before the ACCC had finalised Adam Internet's prices.

Managing director Scott Hicks said the delay meant his customers were paying for the ongoing battles between Telstra and its competitors. "This latest delay looks like yet another attempt to stifle competition, creating confusion among consumers," he said.