

**GLOBAL
COMPETITION
REVIEW**

Goodmans catapults into contention

8 April 2004

Toronto-based Goodmans has delivered a surprise by securing one of Canada's leading competition officials. The announcement is seen as something of a coup, and confirms that an unsettled period is far from over, for Canada's competition bar.

Richard Annan is the "major case director and strategic policy adviser" at the Competition Bureau. He joins as head of competition law group.

William Rosenfeld, a senior competition and securities lawyer at Goodmans, says: "We welcome Richard to add focus and breadth to our Competition Law practice." Annan, 48, joined the bureau in 1982. He has never been in private practice.

Comments **Calvin S Goldman QC**, head of competition at Blakes: "Richard's move from the Bureau to Goodmans has certainly caught the profession by surprise." Goldman who, as former head of the competition bureau, worked with Annan, described him as "smart, skilled and with a great deal of integrity": "It may take him some time to adapt to private practice... but he's chosen a great firm who will give him all the support he needs to develop a competition law practice."

Annan has recently been the assistant deputy commissioner of competition responsible for mergers, in charge of division A of the mergers branch.

Comments **Martin D Low QC** of McMillan Binch LLP, who led Canada's criminal enforcement programme at the Bureau in the 90s: "The loss of Richard's experience will certainly be noticed. He's been one of the mainstays of the merger branch."

It was Annan that led the review of several of Canada's largest merger inquiries in recent times, including the 'bank mergers' in 1998 (which were blocked) and Air Canada/Canadian Airlines. He was part of the team appearing for the Bureau before the Competition Tribunal in Gemini I and Gemini II.

Goodmans will now have nine lawyers with literacy in competition, it says. Former head of competition **William Rosenfeld** will be free, he predicts, to expand his practice into M&A, securities, and government advisory matters, as well as competition, focusing at all times on "major files".

Annan says: "Goodmans attracted me through its dynamic practice and effective people." He graduated from Queen's University in 1980. He has an MBA from the University of Western Ontario. Says **Dale Lastman**, the firm's co-chairman: "Richard is widely experienced in merger review in Canada and his expertise and knowledge will be invaluable to our clients."