



Information For The Household Goods Rental Industry

Data collected and stored does not include any personally identifying details about a customer. Only identifiers about goods are entered in the database. There is an account number field, however it is not returned in any search results, and is purely an identifier of your choice, so that in the event you are sent an alert by Police or a Pawnbroker that they have your item, you will be able to quickly identify the relevant record in your system to which it relates. Alerts are sent by a simple push button, and the sender does not know who you are, and does not receive your contact details. You will receive the sender's information. The system was designed to ensure that no user can determine the number of goods belonging to an individual or a business, and similarly to ensure the privacy of individuals is maintained.

The Personal Property Securities Register (PPSR) is used by financiers to register their interests in assets of substantial value. Registration of interests in an asset is complex and reasonably costly. The PPSR is generally used to register interests in motor vehicles, substantial plant and equipment or vessels. The PPSR is not designed for the registration of household goods valued at under \$5000, and in any case Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers are not obligated to search the PPSR for such items.

Most Lessors of Household Goods to Consumers do not permanently mark items to identify that they are rented. The lack of engraving makes it very easy for a lessee to pawn or sell rented goods through Pawnbrokers or Secondhand Dealers. Trying to locate goods that have been illegally sold or pawned is difficult, and usually is only undertaken following a tip-off from a third party, and usually as a part of debt collection activities commenced due to non payment of rental fees. Pawnbrokers are often reluctant to assist Lessors as they do not want Police to seize goods they have loaned money against or purchased.

New South Wales Police recover goods from Pawnbrokers, through Restoration Orders. The processes are time consuming, involving many hours of Police time for each instance. Anti-Theft Police Officers also deal in crimes of a far more serious nature, and so it could be reasonable to suggest that the use of any system that prevents a waste of valuable time of an already overworked Police force, should be compulsory. There is a growing reluctance among officers to commence Restoration Order actions.

*The cost of registration of rented or mortgaged items at rollout will be free, with bulk uploads possible. Searching by anyone is available at no cost and is conveniently available through mobile app or website. Data will be freely available to Police for matching against pawnbroker database information that is already collected. In addition to Pawnbrokers and Secondhand dealers, unregistered members of the public will be able to easily ascertain free of charge, if they are potentially purchasing a rented item.

Minor changes to legislation or regulations could result in Pawnbrokers being required to conduct searches, and Restoration Orders only being used where there has been a breach committed by a Pawnbroker Licensee.