



TO BID or not to bid

Do your homework and be on the look out for bidding wars or anything that may affect a takeover bid

One of the most often quoted sayings in the markets is to 'buy on rumour and sell on fact'. And for the past 12 months Australians seem to be heeding this in the midst of what seems to be a renewed level of mergers and acquisitions and takeover activities in the local market.

It was almost a year ago when Toll Holdings, Australia's largest transport group, launched a takeover bid on Patrick Corporation, then one of the major port operators in the country. This deal, which was completed in May 2006 definitely ranks among the most bitterly fought and protracted takeover battles in Australia.