Enforcement Guide

Chapter 10
Injunctions



10.4 Other relevant powers

- 10.4.1 The FCA has a range of powers it can use to take remedial, protective and disciplinary action against a person who has contravened a relevant requirement or engaged in *market abuse*, as well as its powers to seek injunctions under sections 380 and 381 of the Act and under the courts' inherent jurisdiction. Where appropriate, the FCA may exercise these other powers before, at the same time as, or after it applies for an injunction against a person.
- 10.4.2 When, in relation to *firms*, the *FCA* applies the broad test outlined in paragraph ■ 10.2.2, it will consider the relative effectiveness of the other powers available to it, compared with injunctive relief. For example, where the FCA has concerns about whether a firm will comply with restrictions that the FCA could impose by exercising its own-initiative powers, it may decide it would be more appropriate to seek an *injunction*. This is because breaching any requirement imposed by the court could be punishable for contempt. Alternatively, where, for example, the FCA has already imposed requirements on a firm by exercising its own-initiative powers and these requirements have not been met, the FCA may seek an injunction to enforce those requirements.
- 10.4.3 The FCA's own-initiative powers do not apply to unauthorised persons. This means that an application for an injunction is the only power by which the FCA may seek directly to prevent unauthorised persons from actual or threatened breaches or market abuse. The FCA will decide whether an application against an unauthorised person is appropriate, in accordance with the approach discussed in paragraph ■ 10.2.2. The FCA may also seek an *injunction* to secure assets where it intends to use its insolvency powers against an unauthorised person.
- 10.4.4 In certain cases, conduct that may be the subject of an *injunction* application will also be an offence which the FCA has power to prosecute under the Act. In those cases, the FCA will consider whether it is appropriate to prosecute the offence in question, as well as applying for injunctions under section 380, section 381, or both.
- 10.4.5 Where the FCA exercises its powers under section 380, section 381 and/or invokes the court's inherent jurisdiction to obtain an order restraining the disposal of assets, it may also apply to the court for a restitution order for the distribution of those assets.