

Full Disclosure

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Jim travelling better after case pans out

THE Pan Pharmaceuticals saga is nearing a close, with former boss Jim Selim acquitted in the NSW Supreme Court of two charges of procuring another person to destroy test results.

In May 2003, Pan went into voluntary administration after the biggest drug recall in Australia's history.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration ordered the recall after complaints about the company's travel-sickness drug Travacalm. The **TGA** also suspended Pan's licence.

The prosecution alleged Selim ordered Pan employee Karl Brooks to destroy Travacalm data and test results. But Justice Elizabeth Fullerton yesterday directed the jury to find Selim not guilty on both counts after ruling the Crown had failed to establish "elements necessary for the offence".

She said the case against Selim had not proven he ordered the destruction of the tests knowing the computer data may be required as evidence in court.

Selim, a Cairo-born pharmacist, founded Pan in 1974. While the criminal case has come to an end, there is still one outstanding matter - Selim has launched civil action against the **TGA**. Documents lodged with the Federal Court show Selim is seeking more than \$141 million in damages.