



Bosch reaches agreement with EU Commission on joint settlement of antitrust proceedings

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- ▶ EU Commission imposes penalties for unfair practices relating to individual spark-plug and brake products
- ▶ Unfair practices penalized by the EU Commission took place between 2000 and 2011
- ▶ Bosch cooperated with the EU Commission and helped shed light on the matter

Stuttgart and Brussels – The EU Commission today imposed fines totaling 151.5 million euros on a number of automotive suppliers. The fines relate to anticompetitive practices between 2000 and 2011. These practices concerned certain spark-plug and brake products. The case, which has now been closed by the EU Commission, is one of a series of investigations into the automotive supply industry as a whole conducted by antitrust authorities worldwide since 2010. Bosch cooperated closely with the European Commission to clarify all the details of the matter. For unfair practices relating to individual spark-plug and brake products, the company has to pay a fine totaling 77.2 million euros. In the case of spark-plug products, the fine is 45.8 million euros, and in the case of brake products 31.4 million euros.

Values and compliance

Bosch does not tolerate any infringements of company guidelines and the company's values code, as it places great importance on legal compliance and good business conduct. Bosch upholds the principle of unfettered competition, and strives to achieve a leading market position solely on the basis of the performance and quality of its products.

The technology and services company now has a modern compliance organization, which advises associates and supports them in making the right decisions. It keeps Bosch associates informed and provides them with training on all relevant compliance issues. In all, more than 150,000 associates worldwide

have already received training on the Bosch code of business conduct, and around 80,000 associates have been trained on antitrust law. The compliance organization is also responsible for monitoring and, if necessary, investigating any instances of non-compliance with guidelines.

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The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 400,500 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2017). According to preliminary figures, the company generated sales of 78 billion euros in 2017. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT company, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, smart cities, connected mobility, and connected manufacturing. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to deliver innovations for a connected life. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 440 subsidiary and regional companies in 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing, engineering, and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. At 125 locations across the globe, Bosch employs 62,500 associates in research and development.

The company was set up in Stuttgart in 1886 by Robert Bosch (1861-1942) as "Workshop for Precision Mechanics and Electrical Engineering." The special ownership structure of Robert Bosch GmbH guarantees the entrepreneurial freedom of the Bosch Group, making it possible for the company to plan over the long term and to undertake significant upfront investments in the safeguarding of its future. Ninety-two percent of the share capital of Robert Bosch GmbH is held by Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH, a charitable foundation. The majority of voting rights are held by Robert Bosch Industrietreuhand KG, an industrial trust. The entrepreneurial ownership functions are carried out by the trust. The remaining shares are held by the Bosch family and by Robert Bosch GmbH.

Additional information is available online at www.bosch.com, iot.bosch.com, www.bosch-press.com, twitter.com/BoschPresse.