

**View of the representative of the EFTA States concerning a preliminary draft decision relating to
Case COMP/38.337 — PO/Thread**

(2008/C 21/05)

1. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission's conclusion on the relevant market.
 2. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission that the addressees of the draft decision have participated in agreements and/or concerted practices within the meaning of Article 81(1) of the EC Treaty.
 3. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission that the addressees of the draft decision have participated in a single and continuous infringement of Article 81(1) of the EC Treaty affecting, respectively, the markets of thread for industrial customers in the Benelux and the Nordic countries, the markets of thread for industrial customers in the UK and the markets of automotive thread in the EEA.
 4. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission that the object and effect of the agreements and/or concerted practices were to restrict competition within the meaning of Article 81(1) of the EC Treaty.
 5. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission that the agreements and/or concerted practices have been capable of appreciably affecting trade between Member States of the EU.
 6. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission on the gravity of the infringements.
 7. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission on the duration of the infringement.
 8. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission that there are no aggravating circumstances applicable.
 9. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission's conclusion on the application of a mitigating circumstance for the infringement for industrial thread in the Benelux and the Nordic countries, as well as with the conclusion that there are no mitigating circumstances applicable for the infringement concerning automotive thread in the EEA.
 10. The representative of the EFTA States agrees with the Commission on the application of the Leniency Notice.
 11. The representative of the EFTA States recommends the publication of its opinion in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
 12. The representative of the EFTA States asks the Commission to take into account all the other points raised during the discussion.
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