

Elevators and Escalators

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Related Practice Areas: **Competition Disputes**

In 2008, the European Commission (“EC”) fined a number of lift and escalator manufacturers a total of €832 million for their collusion between 1995 until 2004.

The Cartel

Among those companies named in the EC Decision as cartelists are Otis, KONE, Schindler and ThyssenKrupp. The cartelists sought to price fix the installation and maintenance of lifts and escalators in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. The EC noted that damage inflicted within the affected regional markets was far reaching.

Our Actions

Hausfeld, alongside Dutch alliance law firm Boekel de Nerée, have brought proceedings in the Netherlands against KONE and ThyssenKrupp on behalf of a group of European purchasers of elevators and escalators in December 2010.

If your organisation purchased any lifts and or escalators or subsequently have contracted for maintenance services between 1995 and 2004 in the geographical markets referred to above, then it can recover damages from the members of the cartel.

Supporting Documents

1. European Commission Press Release, 21 February 2007