

## Capacitors Cartel

Related Practice Areas: **Competition Disputes**

In March 2018, the European Commission fined eight capacitor producers – Elna, Hitachi Chemical, Holy Stone, Matsuo, NEC Tokin, Nichicon, Nippon Chemi-Con and Rubycon – a total of €254 million for participating in a cartel between 1998 – 2012.

Capacitors store and regulate electrical current in a variety of household and commercial electronic products, including covers all areas of electronic products, from smart phones, game consoles, and car electronic systems.

Competition authorities across the globe are continuing to investigate this cartel in the supply of electrolytic capacitors. The Competition Commission of Singapore, Japan Fair Trade Commission, Taiwan Fair Trade Commission, and the Brazilian Administrative Council for Economic Defense have already issued decisions and fines against capacitor suppliers and the US Department of Justice is continuing to investigate the cartel.

The European Commission's full press release can be read [here](#).