



## Press Release concerning the EU Trucks Cartel Four trade associations file legal action against truck manufacturers

Bonn/Berlin, 10 January 2018. More than two hundred members of the group of injured associations Verbände-Geschädigten-Gemeinschaft (VGG) are now taking legal action with regards to the truck cartel. For strategic reasons, they have opted to join a collective action in the Netherlands (Amsterdam). The action will bundle nearly 50,000 truck procurements from the period 1997 to 2011. The affected companies are cooperating with the law firm MJG Rechtsanwälte specialised in competition law damage claims and Cartel Damage Claims (CDC).

Preparations for the legal action have been ongoing since July 2017. Econometric analysis conducted as part of an expert opinion demonstrated that the affected companies have suffered significant financial losses. “The manufacturers rejected out-of-court solutions, despite our measured approach looking towards future business relations”, the associations’ directors Guder (BVGFGH), Peilsteiner (VDKL), Dr. Brügger (DFHV) and Goebel (GD Holz) of VGG. In addition, the decision to pursue a legal action came after truck manufacturers have rejected, at times harshly, even the slightest admission of guilt.

Background: After it became public that truck manufacturers MAN, Volvo/Renault, Daimler, IVECO, Scania and DAF had, among other things, regularly and systematically exchanged price lists, gross list prices and net sales prices, four associations joined in late 2016 to form the VGG: the German Association of Beverage Wholesalers (Bundesverband des Deutschen Getränkefachgroßhandel), the German Association of Cold Storage and Logistics Companies (Verband Deutscher Kühllhäuser und Kühllogistikunternehmen), the German Fruit Trade Associations (Deutscher Fruchthandelsverband) as well as the German Timber Trade Association (Gesamtverband Deutscher Holzhandel).

Legal Counsel Dr. Peter Gussone, MJG Rechtsanwälte: “We founded the VGG together to also enable small and medium-sized members of the associations to obtain damages from the manufacturers.” By way of cooperating with CDC the participating companies incur no costs or financial risk for the legal action.

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[www.vdkl.de](http://www.vdkl.de)

Verband Deutscher Kühllhäuser und Kühllogistikunternehmen e.V.

[www.dfhv.de](http://www.dfhv.de)

Deutscher Fruchthandelsverband e.V.

[www.gdholz.de](http://www.gdholz.de)

Gesamtverband Deutscher Holzhandel e.V.