

Carbone Lorraine was just informed by the European Commission that it will have to pay a 6.97 million euros fine, further to an investigation about antitrust practices led in the area of graphite specialties industry over the 1993-1998 period.

Carbone Lorraine has maintained with the European Commission the same spirit of collaboration as the one showed in the past with the legal authorities of the USA, where the case originated. Carbone Lorraine will pursue its active collaboration with the European Commission, namely in the scope of the current investigation about brushes for electric motors.

These investigations follow a procedure similar to that initiated by the US Department of Justice in 1999. In 2000, Carbone Lorraine accepted a transaction which definitely put an end to its litigation with the DOJ. Since then, class actions have been initiated by certain American customers in the area of graphite specialties and are currently close to a conclusion. Accounts were provisioned for an amount of about 4 million dollars. Class actions were just initiated in the area of brushes.

Since 1999, the Group implemented for its operational and commercial managers a global compliance program aimed to the awareness-raising of the legal aspects of antitrust issues. Very strict measures of internal and external control insure a scrupulous observance of antitrust rules in every country where the Group is established.

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Reminder:

Carbone Lorraine is an industrial group specialising in electrical components (brushes for electric motors, magnets and industrial fuses) and advanced materials and technologies.

The Group is listed on the Premier Marché of the Paris Stock Exchange. It is part of the SBF 120 and Euronext 150 indices.

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