



PRESS RELEASE from NCC

2007-12-19

No 66/07

NCC to pay SEK 25 million for violation of Finnish Competition Act

The Finnish Market Court has imposed an administrative fee of approximately SEK 13 million on NCC Roads Oy for violations of the Finnish Competition Act. The half-owned company Valtatie Oy was also fined approximately SEK 24 million.

“NCC will now evaluate the Market Court Decision before deciding whether to file an appeal to the Finnish Supreme Administrative Court,” says Ulf Wallin, General Counsel for NCC Group.

A total of seven companies were found by the court to have infringed the Competition Act. Two of the companies concerned, NCC Roads Oy and Valtatie Oy, were acquired by NCC in 2000.

In its case, the Finnish Competition Authority (FCA) claimed that a national cartel had been in operation within the asphalt industry between 1994 and 2002, which divided up the market and engaged in pricing and tendering collusion.

The Market Court found that NCC Roads Oy, through previously owned companies, participated in cartel activities from 1997 to 2001. According to the Court, Valtatie Oy also participated in the cartel from 1995 to 2001.

The fee for NCC Roads and the half-owned company Valtatie Oy will be charged against NCC's earnings in the fourth quarter of 2007.

An appeal to Finland's highest administrative court, the Supreme Administrative Court, must be filed within 30 days.

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NCC is one of the leading construction and property development companies in the Nordic region. NCC had in 2006 sales of SEK 56 billion, with 22,000 employees.

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