

COFECE notifies its Statement of Probable Responsibility for possible Absolute Monopolistic Practices in the Automobile Air Conditioning Compressors Market

- *The case will continue as a trial-like procedure in which Economic Agents will be able to answer COFECE's allegations.*

Mexico City, February 4th, 2016. - The Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE) notified several economic agents of a Statement of Probable Responsibility for their alleged participation in absolute monopolistic practices in the national market for the production, manufacturing, marketing, distribution and integration of air conditioning compressors used in automobiles.

COFECE's Investigative Authority concluded its ex-officio inquiry process, initiated on April 16th 2013, and has now issued a Statement of Probable Responsibility through which it details the elements that have allowed it to suggest that certain competing Economic Agents have probably participated in an absolute monopolistic practice.

Pursuant to the Federal Economic Competition Law (FECL), absolute monopolistic practices consist of contracts, agreements, arrangements or combinations amongst competing Economic Agents, which have as their purpose or effect to fix prices, restrict supply, allocate markets, rig bids and exchange information with one of these purposes or effects.

During the trial-like procedure, the corresponding economic agents have the right to argue in their favor and submit evidence related to the allegations presented against them.

COFECE's Board of Commissioners shall issue a resolution once all defense arguments are heard, evidence is analyzed and allegations are brought forth.

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The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. Through these, it contributes to consumer welfare and the efficient functioning of the markets. Through its work it seeks better conditions for consumers, greater output and better services and a "level playing field" for companies.