



**ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP**  
**MARKET STUDIES PROJECT**

**MARKET STUDIES INFORMATION STORE**

**JURISDICTION**

**JAPAN – Fair Trade Commission**

**UPDATED: MARCH 2020**

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Digital Platform											
<b>Market:</b>	Online retail platform and Application store	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	October 2019											
<b>Duration:</b>	9 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Government policy and issues exposed in other market studies.											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>Given the <a href="#">“Fundamental Principles for Improvement of Rules Corresponding to the Rise of Digital Platform Businesses”</a> formulated jointly by the METI, the JFTC and the MIC “(a)s a starting point to achieve transparency and fairness, understanding of the actual state of trade practices will be advanced through large-scale, comprehensive and thorough surveys,” the JFTC conducted, first of all, a fact-finding survey regarding trade practices on online retail platforms and app stores, both of which have been pointed as thorny, in order to identify whether there are any concerns for the AMA or competition policies in Japan.</p> <p>Acts which companies opening a store and selling their products or services through digital platforms have pointed out through this survey fall into the following classifications in terms of the AMA; 1) Acts which could do sellers harm, 2) Acts which could exclude competitors, and 3) Acts which could restrict sellers’ business.</p> <p>This survey shed light on acts which should be revisited to improve fairness and transparency of trade from the viewpoint of competition policy as well. One of the acts is, for example, an opaque search algorithm. Where a digital platform operator manages search algorithm arbitrarily to give themselves unjust preferential treatment, an independent and reasonable choice by a consumer could be distorted.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release, summary and full report in English)											

	<a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/October/191031.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/October/191031.html</a> (Press release, summary and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/oct/191031_2.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/oct/191031_2.html</a>
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>	

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Energy											
<b>Market:</b>	City Gas	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2019											
<b>Duration:</b>	14 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>In the past, only the General Gas Utilities (GGUs), which referred to Japan's regional monopoly gas companies, were granted permissions to supply city gas under the Gas Business Act. In 2017, a full liberalization of entries into the gas retail business was realized by the amendment of the Act.</p> <p>However, there were few cases where new gas suppliers came into the market and the GGUs still remained dominant since they vertically integrated their units of retail and wholesale with their gas distribution units which were necessary for new entrants to use to supply city gas.</p> <p>Given the situation, the JFTC has decided to conduct the survey on the city gas market and made some recommendations based on the result from the viewpoint of ensuring new entries into the market and sound competition between the incumbent GGUs and new entrants, which would lead to the interests of gas consumers such as price lowering and improvement of services.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/jun/190628_gas.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/jun/190628_gas.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission												
<b>Sector:</b>	Information Markets and Intellectual Property Rights												
<b>Market:</b>	Manufacturing	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>											
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2019												
<b>Duration:</b>	8 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>	
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern												
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	The importance of intellectual property protection in businesses has been increasing in recent years. Some experts pointed out that enterprises in superior bargaining position unfairly siphoned off know-how and IP rights from their trading manufacturers. Given these circumstances, the JFTC carried out a fact-finding survey regarding abuse of superior bargaining position related to know-how and IP rights of manufacturers.												
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/jun/190614.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/jun/190614.html</a>												
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>													



**ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP**  
**MARKET STUDIES PROJECT**

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Financial Services											
<b>Market:</b>	Credit Card	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	March 2019											
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>The majority of the amounts of cashless payments in Japan utilize credit cards and the amounts of payments using credit cards are growing. <i>Growth Strategy 2017</i> (approved by the cabinet on June 9, 2017) and <i>Growth Strategy 2018</i> (approved by the cabinet on June 15, 2018) include the target of “doubling the cashless payment settlement ratio, to about 40% within the next 10 years (by June 2027)”. Therefore, it is expected that the amounts of payments using credit cards will continue to increase in the future.</p> <p>Under these conditions, the JFTC has initiated a survey on the credit card market in order to identify whether or not there are trade practices in the credit card market which are likely to be problematic under the AMA and competition policy.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/mar/190313.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/mar/190313.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	E-Commerce											
<b>Market:</b>	B2C e-commerce	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	November 2018											
<b>Duration:</b>	11 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>In recent years, the size of the B2C e-commerce market in Japan has expanded rapidly and the market environment has undergone a major transformation such as the emergence of new online shopping mall operators. The development of such e-commerce is thought to promote competition in the retail market and to benefit consumers. On the other hand, there are concerns that it will enable such companies to monitor the behaviours of their competitors and clients and conduct anticompetitive practices more easily.</p> <p>Based on the recognition above, the JFTC conducted a survey on trade practices regarding B2C e-commerce in general, such as trade terms between manufactures and distributors, the manufacturers and distributors' sales methods at their websites, and the state of transactions at online shopping malls, and a survey on consumers' behavior pertaining to e-commerce. The JFTC published the report on the survey results on January 29th, 2019.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and summary report in English) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/April/190409_1.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/April/190409_1.html</a> (Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/jan/190129.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/jan/190129.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Communications											
<b>Market:</b>	Mobile Phone	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2018											
<b>Duration:</b>	6 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- Follow up of 2016 survey - Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>Mobile phones have become even more essential to life with the growing number of their contracts. The government recognizes that it is important to improve the competitive environment in the market which is oligopolized by three Mobile Network Operators (MNOs). In August 2016, the JFTC released “Issues Concerning Competition Policy in the Mobile Phone Market” to promote competition in the market.</p> <p>In 2018, the JFTC also conducted the follow-up market studies on the market as there was not enough competition in particular between the MNOs and the newly entered Mobile Virtual Network Operators (MVNOs). The JFTC was concerned that MNOs’ restrictive business practices would increase a switching cost for users and that communication service fees remain high due to such practices.</p> <p>Based on the result of the market studies, the JFTC made some recommendations to the sector regulator from the view point of improving a competitive environment for MVNOs. As a result, the sector laws and regulations were amended, which has led to improvement in restrictive practices.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/jun/180628.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/jun/180628.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission												
<b>Sector:</b>	Government in Markets												
<b>Market:</b>	Public procurement	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>											
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2018												
<b>Duration:</b>	8 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>	
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	A follow-up of the previous survey (conducted in 2005)												
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	The JFTC conducted the survey in order to identify the current state of the efforts by public procurement agencies to prevent their officials from involving in bid-rigging and to improve the effectiveness of the efforts.												
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and summary report in English) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2018/june/180613.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2018/june/180613.html</a> (Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/jun/180613_1.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/jun/180613_1.html</a>												
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>													

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Retail Sector											
<b>Market:</b>	Retail trade	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	January 2018											
<b>Duration:</b>	6 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	While large-scale retailers rigorously compete with each other to satisfy consumers' demands, the JFTC had issued approximately 20 cautions per year to large-scale retailers since 2013. Given this circumstance, the JFTC carried out a fact-finding survey on transactions between large-scale retailers and suppliers.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/jan/180131.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/jan/180131.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission												
<b>Sector:</b>	Education												
<b>Market:</b>	School uniforms	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>											
<b>End Date:</b>	November 2017												
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>	
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern												
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>Public junior high school students generally wear school uniforms and it is common that the parents of students entering junior high schools are asked to purchase school-specified uniforms. Those school uniforms are relatively expensive among the items parents need to buy for their children entering junior high schools. In recent years, the prices of school uniforms have been on the rise.</p> <p>Given such situation, the JFTC decided to conduct this survey in order to clarify the problems in perspective of competition policy and AMA.</p>												
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/nov/171129.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/nov/171129.html</a>												
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>													

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Energy											
<b>Market:</b>	LNG	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2017											
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>In recent years, the following significant changes in the demand and supply of liquefied natural gas (hereinafter, "LNG") are pointed out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tendency to ease supply-demand balance along with restart of nuclear power plants and along with future diversification of energy mix</li> <li>2. More uncertain prospects Japanese users have in forecasting domestic demand and supply because of full liberalization of electricity and gas retail markets</li> <li>3. Worldwide increase in demand, including Asia</li> <li>4. Worldwide increase in supply along with development of unconventional natural gas etc.</li> </ol> <p>Because of the above, Japanese users predict excess supply of LNG currently. However, they are concerned that destination restrictions will prevent them from reselling excess LNG inside or outside Japan in future. The Japanese government has decided to promote abolishment of destination restrictions at the Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>Given these changes, the JFTC decided to conduct the survey in order to clarify the problems in perspective of competition policy and the AMA.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Summary and excerpt of report in English)  <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2017/june/170628.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2017/june/170628.html</a>          (Press release and full report in Japanese)  <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/jun/170628_1.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/jun/170628_1.html</a></p>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Competition Policy											
<b>Market:</b>	Bridal	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	March 22nd, 2017	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	9months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>The JFTC observes that the bridal market in Japan is highly competitive to satisfy consumers' demands and to compete new entries. At the same time, however, bridal companies allegedly compel their own trade partners to buy some goods irrelevant to the business directly, which could constitute a violation of the AMA: abuse of superior bargaining position and/or infringement of the Subcontract Act.</p> <p>Given such situation, the JFTC surveyed the trade practices in the bridal market to figure out what violates the Acts happens in practice.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/mar/170322_1.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/mar/170322_1.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Competition Policy											
<b>Market:</b>	Funeral	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	March 22nd, 2017	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	9months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>The JFTC observes that the funeral market in Japan is highly competitive to satisfy consumers' demands and to compete new entries. At the same time, however, funeral companies allegedly compel their own trade partners to buy some goods irrelevant to the business directly, which could constitute a violation of the AMA: abuse of superior bargaining position and/or infringement of the Subcontract Act.</p> <p>Given such situation, the JFTC surveyed the trade practices in the funeral market to figure out what violates the Acts happens in practice.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/mar/170322_2.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h29/mar/170322_2.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Competition Policy											
<b>Market:</b>	Others	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	December 2016											
<b>Duration:</b>	8 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Occurring many violations of the AMA and other problems that involve trade associations.											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>There have occurred many violations of the AMA and other problems that involve trade associations. In some cases of price cartel by a group of enterprises, those enterprises took advantage of the meetings of trade associations.</p> <p>The JFTC conducted a survey regarding compliance efforts of trade associations with an aim to contribute to better achievement by trade associations of AMA compliance by getting the picture of the current status of their efforts to promote AMA compliance and then by clarifying issues to be tackled by them.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and summary report in English) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/December/161221.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/December/161221.html</a> (Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/dec/161221.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/dec/161221.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												



**ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP**  
**MARKET STUDIES PROJECT**

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Competition Policy											
<b>Market:</b>	Nursing Care	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	September 2016											
<b>Duration:</b>	7 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>As the birth rate declines and the population ages in Japan, social security reform has been at the top of the agenda. In particular, the issue of how people can manage nursing care and their work at the same time needs to be addressed urgently when the society is aging further. In light of these facts, the JFTC conducted a survey and review on the current state in the field of nursing care in terms of competition policies which aim to promote fair and free competition by enterprises and to protect consumers' interests including quality improvement of services, etc., and released "Survey Report concerning the Field of Nursing Care", which compiles basic principles and proposals based on the competition policies.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/sep/160905_1.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/sep/160905_1.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>Sector:</b>	Communications											
<b>Market:</b>	Mobile phone											
<b>End Date:</b>	August 2016											
<b>Duration:</b>	7 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Initiatives implemented by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	<p>In the mobile phone market, it is important to promote competition in order to achieve lower communications service fees, terminal prices and service diversification through stimulating the creative initiative of enterprises by means of market mechanisms. That is, active competition will enable users to be free to select terminals in accordance with their needs, choosing from among a wide variety of services, including communications services, and price plans.</p> <p>Meanwhile, because only a limited number of operators are able to receive radio wave allocations due to the limitations and scarcity of radio waves in the mobile phone market, it is not easy to promote competition through the new entry of mobile network operators (MNO). It is therefore particularly important to create and develop a competition environment where MVNOs, which provide mobile communications services by utilizing radio wave allocated to MNOs, can compete as market players.</p> <p>For issues concerning competition policy in the mobile phone market, it is necessary not only to promote competition for communications contracts, on the whole, by correcting the sales methods of MNOs in terms of encouraging the new entry of MVNOs, but also to promote competition for manufacturing and selling mobile terminals (including applications and OS) by correcting the dealing practices of MNOs and terminal manufacturers.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in English) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/August/160802.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/August/160802.html</a> (Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/aug/160802.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/aug/160802.html</a>											
<b>Remarks</b>												

**(if any):**

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
<b>Sector:</b>	Fuel											
<b>Market:</b>	Gasoline	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	April 2016											
<b>Duration:</b>	10 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	A follow-up of the previous survey (conducted in 2013)	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	The JFTC published "Survey Report on Gasoline Transaction" in July 2013. After that, the JFTC recognized some changes in competitive environment of the gasoline distribution market including a change of the method of determining wholesale prices from primary oil distributors to retailers. Therefore, the JFTC decided to conduct the follow-up survey so as to figure out the current condition of gasoline distribution and examine the ways to ensure fair competition in the gasoline distribution market.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release in English) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/April/160628.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/April/160628.html</a> (Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/apr/160428.html">https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/apr/160428.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												



**ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP**  
**MARKET STUDIES PROJECT**

**Information Store**

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Japan Fair Trade Commission	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>Sector:</b>	Competition Policy											
<b>Market:</b>	International Ocean Shipping											
<b>End Date:</b>	February 2016											
<b>Duration:</b>	10 months	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):</b>	To conclude an agreement concerning freight rates, fees, other transportation conditions, maritime routes or allocation of vessels is regarded as exempt from the AMA, conditioned upon advanced notification being submitted to the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism based on the Marine Transportation Act (Act No. 187 of 1949). As a result of the review conducted in FY2010 based on the “Management policy concerning regulatory/system reform” (Cabinet Decision on June 18th, 2010), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism was supposed to re-examine this system for revision during FY2015 while discussing with the JFTC. Based on this, the JFTC conducted a fact-finding survey, reviewed on whether the reasons for maintaining this system still existed, and publicized the report, “Review of the System for Exemption from the AMA in the International Ocean Shipping Business” on February 4th in 2016. The report compiled the JFTC’s review results.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/February/160204.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2016/February/160204.html</a> (Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/feb/160204.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h28/feb/160204.html</a>											
<b>Remarks (if any):</b>												

**Information Store**

**Japan - Fair Trade Commission**

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Media</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Production of TV programs</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	July 2015	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Government Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	10 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>- It has been pointed out that TV production companies have been faced with difficult business environments due to the cut of budget for the production of TV programs.</p> <p>- Given such situation, the JFTC decided to conduct this survey to examine the actual trade practices regarding production of TV programs to see whether there is any conduct that may constitute abuse of superior bargaining position under the Antimonopoly Act or an infringement of the Subcontract Act.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Press release and full report in Japanese only)</p> <p><a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h27/jul/150729.files/150729honbun.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h27/jul/150729.files/150729honbun.pdf</a></p>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Competition Policy</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	-	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	March 2015	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	7 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Emerging vulnerabilities of compliance regimes with foreign competition laws at Japanese companies, etc.											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>- Recently, there are many cases where Japanese companies have been charged with violations of foreign competition laws. As a result, huge amounts of criminal fines and/or surcharges have been imposed on them and their executives and employees have been sentenced to imprisonment. Given these circumstances, the vulnerabilities of compliance regimes with foreign competition laws (hereinafter, "FCL compliance") have been pointed out at Japanese companies.</p> <p>- The competition laws of many major countries and the Antimonopoly Act of Japan have commonality in the conducts that constitute violations especially in cartel prohibition. Therefore, Japanese companies should basically comply with the Antimonopoly Act of Japan in order not to be charged with violation of any foreign competition laws. On the other hand, there are currently differences between the competition laws of major countries and the Antimonopoly Act in terms of the requirements for constituting violations, law enforcement procedures, and other tools for immunity and/or reduction from sanctions over violations. Considering these situations, Japanese companies doing business globally would need to develop their frameworks to comply with foreign competition laws simultaneously with promoting compliance with the Antimonopoly Act.</p> <p>- For this reason, the Japan Fair Trade Commission has recently conducted the questionnaire survey and interviews, with the aim of contributing to reinforcement of FCL compliance regime at Japanese companies.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h27/mar/150327_1.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h27/mar/150327_1.html</a> (Press release and summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2015/March/150327.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2015/March/150327.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Transport</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	logistics	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	March 2015	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>In recent years, it is said that logistics companies have been faced with difficult business environments. For example, it is said that even when fuel prices increase, the shippers do not accept the fare increase and force logistics companies to continue transactions with the same price.</p> <p>Given such situation, the JFTC examined the actual trade practices between shippers and logistics companies to see whether or not any conduct that may constitute abuse of a superior bargaining position had been carried out.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h27/mar/150311.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h27/mar/150311.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Competition Policy</b>												
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Childcare service</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>											
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2014	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>											
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year												
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern												
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Japan, short supply of childcare facilities leads to a huge issue that a large number of children are on a waiting list. Therefore, childcare service is a sector in need of filling demands.</li> <li>- In addition, childcare service is also a sector that is expected to become a growth area of Japan.</li> <li>- The JFTC considers that competition policy enhances supply and quality of childcare service, as well as helps the sector become a driver for the Japanese economy.</li> <li>- Against this backdrop, the JFTC conducted a survey and analysis on the state of childcare sector, and identified key issues from the viewpoint of competition policy.</li> </ul>												
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h26/jun/140625.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h26/jun/140625.html</a> (Press release and full report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2014/june/140625.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2014/june/140625.html</a>												

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	Groceries (food and drink)											
<b>Market:</b>	Food trade	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2014	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>In the previous surveys, it has been pointed out that there are some cases of “product returns” or “refusal to receive products” in transactions of some private brand products that may constitute abuse of a superior bargaining position or a problem under the Subcontract Act.</p> <p>In light of these facts, the JFTC decided to conduct this survey to determine the actual conditions of transactions of private brand products in the food sector which accounts for a large part of all sales of private brand products.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Press release and full report in Japanese)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h26/jun/140620.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h26/jun/140620.html</a>          (Summary report in English)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2014/june/140620.files/140620.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2014/june/140620.files/140620.pdf</a></p>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Retail Sector (excluding food and drink only market studies)</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Retail trade</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	August 2013	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	In the previous surveys, it has been pointed out that retailers created disadvantages for suppliers in transactions involving the use of logistics center.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/aug/130808.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/aug/130808.html</a> (Summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/august/130808.files/130808.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/august/130808.files/130808.pdf</a>											

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Fuel</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Gasoline</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	July 2013	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- A follow-up of the previous surveys (conducted in 2004 and 2005) - Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	There have emerged some changes in competitive environment of gasoline distribution market including significant change in setting method of wholesale prices from primary distributors to retailers.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/jul/130723.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/jul/130723.html</a> (Press release and summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/july/130723.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/july/130723.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Groceries (food and drink)</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Food trade</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	May 2013											
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internal competition concern</li> <li>- “The report on the trade between hotels and suppliers” published in May 2012.</li> <li>- “The report on the trade between large-scale retailers and suppliers” published in May 2010.</li> </ul>	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	Based on these two reports noted above, as there is the possibility that behavior that can be linked to abuse of a superior bargaining position is carried out even in trades between food service operators and suppliers.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/may/130527_01.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/may/130527_01.html</a> (Summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/may/130527Food_Service.files/130527FoodService.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/may/130527Food_Service.files/130527FoodService.pdf</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	Competition Policy											
<b>Market:</b>	-	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	November 2012	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Government Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	10 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	A follow-up of the previous survey (conducted in 2010)											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	The JFTC conducted the survey in order to contribute to enhance the effectiveness of enterprises' compliance of Antimonopoly Act through promoting strong commitment and initiatives by the top management of enterprises toward effective their compliance.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/nov/121128.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/nov/121128.html</a> (Summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/nov/121128AMA_Compliance.files/121128AMA_Compliance.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/nov/121128AMA_Compliance.files/121128AMA_Compliance.pdf</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Energy</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Electricity</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	September 2012	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	6 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	The cabinet decision: "Policy on Regulatory and Institutional Reform in the Energy Sector"											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>On April 3, 2012, the government adopted the cabinet decision, "Policy on Regulatory and Institutional Reform in the Energy Sector". It requires the JFTC to analyze the current status of competition in the electricity market, and to find solutions from the standpoint of competition policy.</p> <p>The JFTC, in response to the cabinet decision, conducted a study of the electricity market in Japan and made proposals to promote competition in the market.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Press release and full report in Japanese)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/sep/120921.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/sep/120921.html</a>          (Press release and full report in English)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/sep/individual-000499.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/sep/individual-000499.html</a></p>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Retail Sector (excluding food and drink only market studies)</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Retail trade</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	July 2012	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 years											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- Internal competition concern - To confirm the visibility of the "Guidelines Concerning Abuse of a Superior Bargaining Position under the Antimonopoly act"											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	The JFTC concluded in "The Report on the Trade between Food Manufacturers and Wholesalers" published in October 2011 that there were some cases where wholesalers unreasonably requested the manufacturers due to the retailers' request to wholesalers, and the JFTC would continuously pay attention to the actual trade situation including, but not limited to, food industry.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/jul/120711.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/jul/120711.html</a> (Press release and summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/jul/individual-000491.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/jul/individual-000491.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Travel and Tourism</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Hotel business</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	May 2012	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>										
<b>Duration:</b>	2 years		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There were violations of the Antimonopoly act as the abuse of superior bargaining position by the hotel business operators against their suppliers, and the JFTC issued the cease and desist orders or warnings against such conducts.</li> <li>- In the "Fact-Finding Survey on Trading between Large-Scale Retailers and Suppliers" published in May 2010, some suppliers answered that there were certain unreasonable requests form hotel business operators.</li> </ul>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/may/120516_2.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h24/may/120516_2.html</a> (Press release and summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/may/individual-000481.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2012/may/individual-000481.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	Groceries (food and drink)											
<b>Market:</b>	Food wholesale	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	October 2011	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	3 years											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There were some cases where wholesalers committed the acts against manufactures as suppliers which could be in violation of the abuse of superior bargaining position.</li> <li>- Especially, according to the past survey, such acts were found in the trade between food manufacturers and wholesalers.</li> </ul>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/oct/111019top.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/oct/111019top.html</a> (Press release and summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2011/oct/individual-000447.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2011/oct/individual-000447.html</a>											

**Information Store**

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Government in Markets</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Public procurement</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	September 2011	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	10 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	A follow-up of the previous survey (conducted in 2005)											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	The JFTC conducted the survey in order to identify the current state of the efforts by public procurement agencies to prevent their officials from involving in bid-rigging and to improve the effectiveness of the efforts.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/sep/11092802.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/sep/11092802.html</a> (Press release and summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2011/sep/individual-000442.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2011/sep/individual-000442.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	Retail Sector (excluding food and drink only market studies)											
<b>Market:</b>	Franchise chain	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	July 2011	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	6 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	It had been a certain period of time after conducting the survey for the convenience-store published in October 2001 and meanwhile there was a case in which a franchiser was in violation of the Antimonopoly Act as the abuse of superior bargaining position against the franchisee, and the JFTC issued a cease and desist order in June 2009.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/jul/110707gaiyo.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/jul/110707gaiyo.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Financial Services</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Banking</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2011	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- A follow-up of the previous surveys (conducted in 2001 and 2006) - Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>It had been more than 4 years after the survey in 2006 and meanwhile the economic situation had been changing such as Lehman's fall in 2008 autumn and the continuing strong yen after 2010 summer.</p> <p>Given such situation, the JFTC examined the actual trade practices between banking and borrowers which could be changing.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/jun/110615gaiyo.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/jun/110615gaiyo.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Advertising and Marketing</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Advertising</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	September 2010	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- A follow-up of the previous survey (conducted in 2005) - Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	To make clear the issues for improvement on trade in advertising industry from the viewpoint of competition policy by studying the change of trade practice on TV advertisement with a focus on the point which was pointed out in the survey in 2005 and investigating whether there are any anticompetitive trade practices on Internet advertisement, same as TV advertisement.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/sep/100901.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/sep/100901.html</a>											

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Competition Policy</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	-	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2010	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	7 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- To verify business situation where there is a strong demand to enhance corporate compliance systems - A follow-up of the previous survey (conducted in 2009)											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>												
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	The JFTC conducted the survey in order to contribute to enhance the effectiveness of enterprises' compliance of Antimonopoly Act through promoting strong commitment and initiatives by the top management of enterprises toward effective their compliance.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/jun/10063002gaiyou.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/jun/10063002gaiyou.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Retail Sector (excluding food and drink only market studies)</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Retail trade</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	May 2010	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- Internal competition concern - To verify compliance with the "designation of specific unfair trade practices by large-scale retailers relating to trade with suppliers"											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	Due to the type of trade that the large-scale retailers have a superior bargaining position against the suppliers, it is likely that the voluntary filing of complaints or reports is not expected from the suppliers.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/may/10052602.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/may/10052602.html</a>											

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Competition Policy</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Emissions trading</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	March 2010	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	6 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	The argument at Study Group on Government Regulations and Competition Policy											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	Considering that the introduction of domestic (regional) emissions trading scheme would influence competition between the business entities, the JFTC has recognized the importance of grasping and summarizing the points of the competition policies on the scheme before its introduction.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/mar/10033102.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/mar/10033102.html</a> (Press release and full report in English [tentative translation]) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2010/mar/individual-000026.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2010/mar/individual-000026.html</a>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	Media											
<b>Market:</b>	Animation industry	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	January 2009	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	14 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>The animation industry structure has multiple tiers where planning and production of animation work is entrusted from one production company to another among many small-scale ones. In such an imbalance of power a trading problem such as abuse of dominant bargaining position and a violation under the Subcontract Act was difficult for the industry to reveal so JFTC revealed the trade practices in the industry.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Press release and full report in Japanese)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h21/jan/090123.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h21/jan/090123.html</a>          (Press release and overview of survey results in English)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2009/jan/individual-000140.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2009/jan/individual-000140.html</a></p>											

### Information Store

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Leisure</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Pet trade (dog &amp; cat)</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2008	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	8 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	External complaints and internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>Pets differ in various breeds, sale prices, appearance, age and other details. However, consumers have little experience in buying pets and there is a large gap in knowledge between consumers and retailers. It had been pointed out that consumers purchased pets without sufficiently understanding details which need to be checked before purchase.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Press release and full report in Japanese)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-hyoji/h20/08062305.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-hyoji/h20/08062305.html</a>            (Press release and summary report in English)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2008/jun/individual_000098.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2008/jun/individual_000098.html</a></p>											

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Education</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Textbook distribution</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	August 2007	<b>Competition Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Enforcement</b> <b>Consumer Education</b> <b>Business Education</b> <b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b> <b>Voluntary Business Action</b> <b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b> <b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b> <b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b> <b>Referral to Third Parties</b> <b>No Problems Found</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Duration:</b>	6 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	External complaints and internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	<p>Though textbook distribution was deregulated in June 2006, there had been almost no entry in the industry and there seemed to be no competition. The commission paid by publishers to distributors had been fixed in almost all transactions and trade practices basically had not changed for a long time.</p>											
<b>Link to report:</b>	<p>(Press release and full report in Japanese)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h19/07080301.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h19/07080301.html</a>            (Press release and summary report in English)  <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2007/aug/2007_aug_3.files/2007-Aug-3.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2007/aug/2007_aug_3.files/2007-Aug-3.pdf</a></p>											

**Information Store**

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>E-Commerce</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Consumer E-commerce such as electronic malls</b>											
<b>End Date:</b>	December 2006	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	External complaints and internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	While E-commerce was increasing year by year, it was pointed out that electronic malls might be abusing dominant bargaining positions against their tenants. In addition, there was concern that it may be difficult to start consumer E-commerce businesses and to develop it, and that incumbent tenants holding suppliers and retail premises were preventing new entries and their development.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h18/06122702.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h18/06122702.html</a>											

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Pharmaceuticals</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Ethical drug distribution</b>											
<b>End Date:</b>	September 2006	<b>Competition Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Enforcement</b>	<b>Consumer Education</b>	<b>Business Education</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary Business Action</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</b>	<b>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</b>	<b>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</b>	<b>Referral to Third Parties</b>	<b>No Problems Found</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	9 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	-Lower usage of generic drugs in Japan - Difficulty in joint purchase by medical institutions											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	Since generic drug usage remained low in Japan and medical institutions had difficulty in promoting joint purchase, there was concern that ethical drugs were being distributed under anticompetitive trade practices.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h18/06092702.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h18/06092702.html</a> (Summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2006/sep/2006_sep_27.files/2006-Sep-27.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2006/sep/2006_sep_27.files/2006-Sep-27.pdf</a>											

**Information Store**

<b>Sector:</b>	<b>Financial Services</b>											
<b>Market:</b>	<b>Banking</b>	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	June 2006	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	5 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	- Follow up of 2001 survey - A cease and desist order against a major bank concerning abuse of dominant bargaining position to borrowers - Internal competition concern											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	Even after the 2001 survey and establishing a guideline in 2004 following the survey, there was concern that major banks were abusing dominant bargaining positions as a cease and desist order was issued to a major bank in 2005.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h18/06062103.html">http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/cyosa/cyosa-ryutsu/h18/06062103.html</a> (Summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2006/jun/2006_june_21_01.files/2006-june-21_01.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2006/jun/2006_june_21_01.files/2006-june-21_01.pdf</a>											

**Information Store**

<b>Sector:</b>	Health											
<b>Market:</b>	Medical Equipment Distribution	<b>Range of Possible Outcomes</b>										
<b>End Date:</b>	December 2005	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
<b>Duration:</b>	5 months											
<b>Source of idea for study:</b>	-External complaints and internal competition concern -Difference between domestic and foreign prices -Follow up of 1997 survey											
<b>Outcome (tick relevant columns):</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reason for study (what were the problems)?</b>	It had been pointed out that there had been differences between domestic and foreign prices of medical equipment and that the reasons for this were the trade practice and the corporate behaviour in the distribution. It was pointed out that the trade practice and corporate behaviour might have changed after the medical service reform, so JFTC checked whether they had really changed.											
<b>Link to report:</b>	(Press release and full report in Japanese) <a href="http://warp.ndl.go.jp/info:ndljp/pid/3483403/www.jftc.go.jp/pressrelease/05_december/05122703.html">http://warp.ndl.go.jp/info:ndljp/pid/3483403/www.jftc.go.jp/pressrelease/05_december/05122703.html</a> (Summary report in English) <a href="http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2005/dec/2005_dec_27.files/2005-Dec-27.pdf">http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly_2005/dec/2005_dec_27.files/2005-Dec-27.pdf</a>											