

To
European Commission

This message contains a response from the Volvo Group to the Evaluation Report on the block exemption for motor vehicle distribution and servicing, Regulation EC 1400/2002, (the Block Exemption), reference number HT-1021

The Volvo Group agrees with the conclusions of the Commission in its evaluation report on the operation of the Block Exemption. The Volvo Group thus supports that the best option for the future would be the application to the automotive sector of a more flexible regime that draws closer inspiration from the general principles applicable to vertical restraints.

We would also underline that the Block Exemption does not reflect the differences in distribution and service needs between the passenger car industry and the commercial vehicle industry. Therefore, should a future regime for the automotive sector include any sector specific restrictions, the specific needs of the commercial vehicle industry must be considered before applying any such restrictions to the commercial vehicle sector.

The Volvo Group offers global transport solutions for customers with high demands. Our product range consists of trucks, buses, construction equipment, engines for leisure boats and commercial marine application and generator units. In addition, we manufacture components for aircraft engines.

The Volvo Group conducts sales in about 180 countries worldwide, either through wholly owned companies or independent dealers. The Volvo Group has production facilities in 18 countries and more than 100,000 employees.

With kind regards
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