

9 October 2026

For Immediate Release

Competition Commission conducts search in case relating to virtual reality systems

The Competition Commission (Commission) conducted an operation codenamed “Lens” yesterday. Search warrants were executed at 11 premises, which included the offices of several IT service and equipment providers and other involved companies, as well as the residences of the concerned individuals. The companies are alleged of having engaged in bid-rigging, price-fixing, market-sharing and exchange of competitively sensitive information when providing quotations for virtual reality (VR) equipment and software installation services to various schools and non-profit organisations, in contravention of the First Conduct Rule under the Competition Ordinance (Ordinance). The total value of the relevant contracts is preliminarily estimated to be around HK\$10 million.

The Commission had earlier received complaints alleging that some IT suppliers had engaged in anti-competitive conduct when submitting quotations for VR systems, such as preparing tender documents for other suppliers and companies so that they could act as cover bidders. The Commission followed up on the case and was satisfied that there was “reasonable cause to suspect” that a contravention of a competition rule had taken place. The Commission therefore escalated the case to the investigation phase.

During yesterday’s operation, in addition to executing the search warrants, the Commission also exercised its compulsory powers under Sections 41 and 42 of the Ordinance to request the relevant parties to produce documents and information, and to attend before the Commission to provide information relating to the case.

Rapid advancements in VR technology has led to its widespread usage across various fields. This case concerns schools and non-profit organisations, and the suspected anti-competitive conduct involved may ultimately result in reduced choices and/or increased costs for these organisations, thereby compromising the efficient use of public resources. The Commission stresses that all market participants, from traditional industries to emerging technologies, must never engage in any form of anti-competitive conduct. The Commission will remain resolute in combating conduct that harms competition in the market.

The Commission calls on anyone who can provide information on the case or the practices concerned to contact the Commission as soon as possible by telephone at 3462 2118, e-mail (complaints@compcomm.hk), post, or in person at the Commission’s office (by appointment only). Those who may have engaged or been involved in cartel conduct should approach the Commission for leniency or cooperation (Leniency Hotline: 3996 8010; e-mail: leniency@compcomm.hk).

No further comment will be made at this stage as the investigation is ongoing. The Commission emphasises that the commencement of an investigation does not imply that any conclusion has been reached at this stage.

Photos:



Competition Commission conducts search in case relating to virtual reality systems