

Briefs: French wireless firms fined for collusion

December 1 2005

France's three leading wireless operators were fined a record \$624 million for market collusion over a six-year period.

France's Competition Committee determined Thursday that Orange Telecom, Vivendi Universal and Bouygues Telecom conspired to share data between 1997 and 2003 in a way that quashed competition and kept rates supported.

The trio made up the lion's share of France's mobile market.

While the Competition Committee said its move was aimed at fostering competition, many analysts were telling French media Thursday that the penalty was relatively easy for the three heavyweights to digest.

Nevertheless, the companies called the fine excessive and out of proportion to penalties in similar telecom cases. They vowed to appeal the ruling at a later date.

Copyright 2005 by United Press International

Citation: Briefs: French wireless firms fined for collusion (2005, December 1) retrieved 19 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2005-12-french-wireless-firms-fined-collusion.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private

study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.