

Google gets third extension to answer EU case

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Brussels has given Google an extension until the end of August to answer an anti-trust case alleging that it abuses its search engine's market dominance, a company spokesman said Thursday.

The two-week extension is the third given to the California tech giant.

The US firm had initially had 10 weeks after the European Commission lodged the case in mid-April to respond but an extension was given until August 17 following a request from the company.

"The Commission has now extended (it) to August 31," a company spokesman said.

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The EU's case centres around complaints that Google's preferential use of its own shopping product in its [search engine](#) could be harmful to consumers and competitors.

The EU is concerned that Google's retail competitors like travel portal TripAdvisor or business review site Yelp could be squeezed out as a result of Google's dominance.

The company could face huge fines if found culpable, as much as 10 percent of its \$66 billion (59 billion euros) in worldwide turnover last year.

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