

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The CNMC initiates disciplinary proceedings against 25 consulting firms and several senior executives of some of them.**

- It is investigating possible anti-competitive practices consisting of the distribution of the Spanish consultancy services market.

**Madrid, 14 February 2019.**- The CNMC (Spain's National Authority for Markets and Competition) has instituted disciplinary proceedings against 25 companies that operate in the consulting sector, having found reasonable indications that they have committed offences prohibited by Article 1 of the Defence of Competition Act (LDC) and Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). (S/DC/0627/18).

These may consist of agreements or practices intended to apportion the consultancy services market in various mainly public tenders, although they may also have affected some private tenders, in a large part of Spain. Specifically, the companies are thought to have submitted fictitious bids to participate in a concerted manner in tenders between 2009 and 2018.

The companies against which the proceedings are being brought are the following: Abay Analistas Económicos, S.L., Altia Consultores, S.A., and their parent company Boxleo TIC, S.L.; Bmasil Strategy, S.L.; Competitividad Desarrollo e Innovación, S.L.U.; Consultores de Políticas Comunitarias, S.L.; Deloitte Consulting, S.L.U., Deloitte Financial Advisory, S.L.U. and their parent company Deloitte Financial Advisory, S.L.; Gestiona XXI Consulting, S.L.; Gizarpro, S.L.; Idom Consulting, Engineering, Architecture, S.A.U. and its parent company, Idom S.A.; Indra Sistemas, S.A.; Innovisions 21, S.L.; Oesia Networks, S.L. and its parent company Heisenberg 2014, S.L.; Pa Consulting Services Limited Sucursal en España and its parent company Pa Consulting Services Limited; Pricewaterhousecoopers Asesores De Negocios, S.L.; Red2Red Consultores, S.L.; Regio Plus Consulting, S.L.; T-Systems ITC Iberia, S.A.U. and its parent company T-Systems International GmbH; and 97S&F, S.L.

In addition, proceedings have been instituted against senior executives of the companies Bmasil Strategy, S.L.; Deloitte Consulting, S.L.U.; Idom Consulting, Engineering, Architecture, S.A.U.; Innovisions 21, S.L.; 97S&F; Pricewaterhousecoopers Asesores De Negocios, S.L.; Regio Plus Consulting, S.L.; and Red2Red Consultores, S.L.

The proceedings were brought following inspections carried out by the CNMC on

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23, 24 and 25 October 2018 ([press release](#)), at the headquarters of the Deloitte Group companies (Deloitte, S.L., Deloitte Advisory, S.L., Deloitte Financial Advisory, S.L.U. and Deloitte Consulting, S.L.U.); Idom, S.A. and Idom Consulting, Engineering, Architecture, S.A.U.; Pricewaterhousecoopers Asesores De Negocios, S.L and Pricewaterhousecoopers Compliance Services, S.L.; and Regio Plus Consulting.

The actions were brought by the CNMC following a referral by the Basque Competition Authority of its investigation (103 PVA 04-52/17) into a possible apportioning of consultancy service contracts tendered by the Regional Government of the Basque Country, and in particular, the information obtained in the inspections conducted by that authority, on 11 and 12 January 2017, at the headquarters of several companies.

CNMC reminds the parties of their obligatory “duty of reserve and confidentiality”, in accordance with Article 43 of Law 15/2007 on Defence of Competition. This requirement for discretion is designed to protect the investigation and decision processes of the sanction proceedings.

The commencement of these proceedings does not prejudice the final conclusion of the investigation. The case must now be investigated and decided by the CNMC within a maximum of 18 months.

Furthermore, the CNMC has in place the [Leniency programme](#), which offers companies participating in a cartel exemption from fines if they provide evidence enabling the CNMC to detect these cartels, or a reduction in any penalty imposed if they provide information with significant added value relating to an existing CNMC investigation.

[CNMC guide against fraud in public procurement](#)