

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0972/05
by Brice Hortefeux (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Breach of motor vehicle exemption Regulation (EC) No1400/2002

I have been notified by independent French repairers that Regulation (EC) No 1400/2002¹ is being breached by motor vehicle manufacturers. These manufacturers are hindering them in the pursuit of their activities by blocking access to technical information in contravention of the provisions of this regulation.

The most recent study commissioned by DG Competition, which was released on 15 October 2004, makes the same observation: 'motor vehicle manufacturers should make progress to give independent repairers and other operators access to technical information on their vehicles'.

Given that this practice could have a very negative impact in terms of jobs in the independent vehicle repair sector, what concrete measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure correct implementation of this regulation, and if need be, what sanctions does it anticipate?

¹ OJ L 203, 1.8.2002, p. 30.