

## AUO liable for up to \$2 billion criminal fine, DOJ's Hammond says

7 Jun 12 | 15:41 EST

Author: Leah Nylen

### IN BRIEF

Convicted LCD maker AU Optronics could be liable for as much as a \$2 billion criminal fine for fixing LCD prices, the head of the Justice Department's criminal program said Thursday.

Chicago - Convicted LCD maker AU Optronics could be liable for as much as a \$2 billion criminal fine for fixing LCD prices, the head of the Justice Department's criminal program said Thursday.

Taiwan-based AUO and its U.S. subsidiary were convicted over price-fixing LCD panels by a San Francisco jury in March.

The jury also found beyond a reasonable doubt that the cartel resulted in a gross gain of at least \$500 million, Scott Hammond, the deputy assistant attorney general for criminal enforcement, said speaking at an international antitrust conference in Chicago.\*

That finding will allow DOJ to ask for up to a \$1 billion criminal fine against AUO, and up to a \$1 billion criminal fine against AUO America, he said.

"We haven't made a sentencing recommendation yet," Hammond said. "I can tell you we will be seeking a very heavy sentence."

"This is very egregious conduct," he continued. "This company to this day continues to assert that the antitrust laws do not apply to them. We're hopeful the judge will [give them] a deterrent sentence to ensure this type of conduct is not repeated."

*\*Third Annual Chicago Forum on International Antitrust Issues, Northwestern University Searle Center on Law, Regulation and Economic Growth, Chicago, June 7-8, 2012*

### Linked Case File(s)

[Antitrust litigation - TFT/LCD - AU Optronics](#)

[www.mlex.com](http://www.mlex.com)  
MLex customer services  
customerservices@mlex.com

**MLex London**  
One Angel Court  
London EC2V 7HJ  
United Kingdom

**MLex Brussels**  
Rue de la Loi 67  
1040 Brussels  
Belgium

**MLex Washington**  
Suite 9000  
1776 Eye Street NW  
20006 Washington  
USA

**MLex New York**  
535 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor  
10017 New York  
USA



© 2012 MLex Ltd. All rights reserved.

Forwarded on 11/06/2012 by **Leah Nylen (MLex)**.  
This content is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed.  
All rights reserved on subscriber original content. Copyright MLex 2012.