

WHAT IS BID-RIGGING?

Two or more suppliers collude on bid submission for tenders. They may take turns to win a tender by agreeing on terms in a bid submission, or not participate in certain tenders after agreeing on who should win the tender.

IMPACT?

Big-rigging is a serious infringement that harms businesses and consumers. Distorting the competitive bidding process can drive up prices and deprive customers from getting the best value for their tenders. To ensure our markets work well, the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore ("CCCS") will take firm action against such anti-competitive practices.

WATCH OUT FOR SIGNS OF POSSIBLE BID-RIGGING:



SIMILARITIES IN BIDS

- Same text errors in bid documents
- Same text when one would expect the text to be different
- Different bid submissions created by the same author
- Bids submitted from same IP address
- Insufficient details submitted for tender evaluation



ODD PRICE DIFFERENCES

- Unexplained bid price increase from the same bidder as compared to past similar tenders
- Large price differences between winning and losing bids with little difference in quality



'FISHY' BUSINESS BEHAVIOUR

- Successful bidder subcontracts to losing suppliers that submitted higher bids
- Bidders suggest they know competing bidders' prices or identities

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Businesses approached for anti-competitive agreements should refuse and publicly distance themselves immediately. Those involved in cartels can seek leniency through **CCCS's Leniency Programme**, potentially receiving reduced or full waiver of financial penalties.

Individuals can get monetary rewards under the **CCCS Reward Scheme** if they report useful information on bid-rigging or cartel activities such as price fixing, bid-rigging, market sharing and production control.

Learn more at www.cccs.gov.sg.



FOR TENDER DESIGN

- Research the industry, including suppliers, goods & services, prices and trends
- Avoid unnecessary tender restrictions, so as to allow more suppliers to participate
- Define requirements clearly, specify desired outcomes
- Require bidders to declare any relationships with entities that may be competing bidders, and that bids submitted were determined independently
- Include a warning to bidders about the penalties for bid-rigging