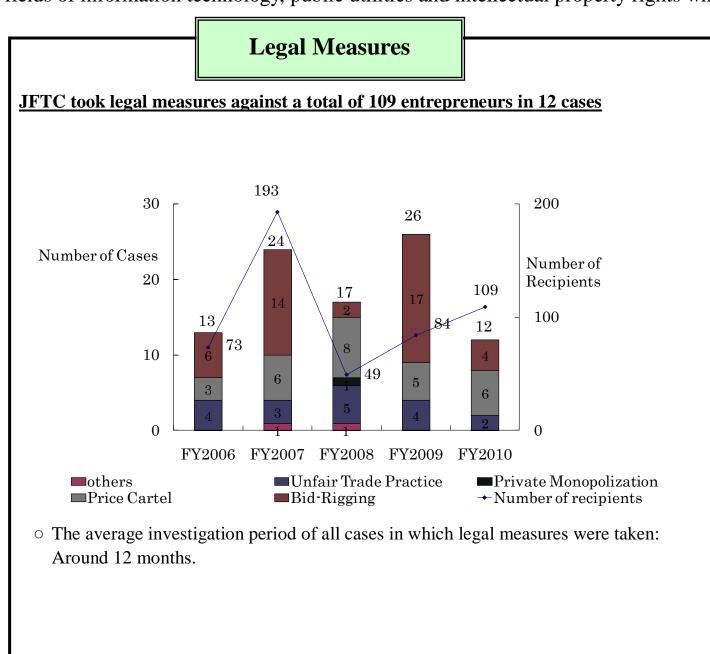
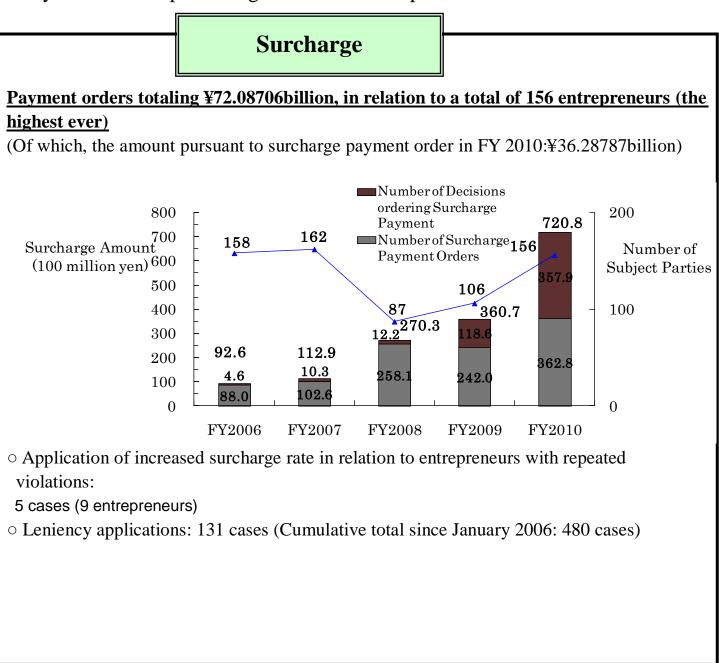
# **Enforcement status of the Antimonopoly Act in FY 2010 (Summary)**

(Tentative Translation)

The Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) vigorously addresses various types of violations of the Antimonopoly Act (AMA) responding to social needs precisely, in particular; (1) price-fixing cartels and bid-rigging which have a great impact on people's living; (2) unfair trade practices such as abuse of superior bargaining position, unjust low price sales and discriminatory pricing which cause unfair disadvantages to small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs); and (3) hindrance of new entries in the fields of information technology, public utilities and intellectual property rights which are key elements for promoting economic development.





## Bid-riggings and price-fixing cartels

## Bid-riggings

- Bid-rigging for sewer pipe constructions ordered by Kawasaki-City (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in April 2010.)
- Bid-rigging for a package of civil engineering work projects ordered by Aomori-City (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in April 2010/ Demand for improvement measures were made under the Act on Elimination and Prevention of Involvement in Bid Rigging, etc.)
- Bid-rigging, conducted by shutter manufacturers, for shutters, etc. in Kinki-region (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in June 2010.)
- Bid-rigging for offshore construction project ordered by Kagoshima Prefecture (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in November 2010.)

# • Price-fixing cartels

- Price-fixing cartel by optical fiber cable products manufacturers (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in May 2010.)
- Price-fixing cartel by shutter manufacturers (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in June 2010.)
- Price-fixing cartel by manufacturers and dealers of electric cables for construction and electric construction wholesalers (Cease and desist order and surcharge payment order were issued in November 2010.)

## Unfair trade practices causing unfair disadvantages to SMEs

#### Abuse of superior bargaining position

- Abuse of superior bargaining position by DIY store against its suppliers (Cease and desist order was issued in July 2010.)
- Efficient and effective reviews by special task-force handling the cases related to abuse of superior bargaining position (55 Cautions)

# **Output** Unjust low price sales

• 2,700 cautions were issued for: Liquors, Petroleum products, Electric home appliances, etc.

# Overview of hearings

- The JFTC newly commenced 30 hearing procedures.
- The JFTC rendered 25 hearing decisions after completing hearing procedures.
- The number of hearing cases pending before the hearing examiners was 76, and 50 cases among them were those of complaints against surcharge payment orders.

# • IT and intellectual property rights fields

• Case in which grant of license of the intellectual property right concerning the side ditches for closed conduits was restricted (Warning was issued in January 2011.)

#### Unfair trade practices in distribution field

- Case regarding trading on restrictive terms by entrepreneurs, engaged in sales of vision corrective contact-lens (Cease and desist orders were issued in December 2010.)
- Case regarding trading on restrictive terms by ethical pharmaceutical wholesale dealers (Warning was issued in June 2010.)
- Case in which a floriculture grower association restricts its members from carrying out their business activities (Warning was issued in July 2010.)