



Clarifications to invitation to tender COMP/2015/005

Study on State aid granted in the automotive sector and on the link between state aid and potential foreclosure in downstream motor vehicle markets and key technology providers

Questions and answers

	Question:	Answer:
1.	<p>We have seen the requirement in the tender specifications that the project manager and senior consultant must have a specific number of years' experience in the automotive sector, together with state aid and competition experience (page 13 of the Tender Specifications document).</p> <p>We are exploring putting together a team that together has the package of skills required for the study (i.e. in-depth experience in the automotive sector, state aid and competition as well as experience of managing multi-country projects of similar scale). Under our envisaged plans, the combined team would have the in-depth expertise across the automotive sector, state aid and competition, rather than all skills being concentrated in one or two individuals. It would be helpful if we could confirm that such an approach would be acceptable with the Commission.</p>	<p><i>Of course it is good if the whole team has combined an in-depth knowledge of all the different areas necessary for carrying out the study, however, the call for tender requests that the Project manager himself/herself possesses "Professional experience of at least 5 years in the automotive sector, in competition policy and in market research and in managing multi-country projects of similar scale and scope, including minimum 3 Member States". It thus does not seem possible to apply with a project manager who is knowledgeable about the automotive sector, but has no knowledge of competition policy, while another person brings this knowledge of competition policy.</i></p>