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Rheinmetall Landsysteme GmbH
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29345 Unterlüß
Germany

Krauss-Maffei Wegmann GmbH & Co. KG
Krauss-Maffei-Str. 11
80997 Munich
Germany

Subject: **Case M.11390 – RHEINMETALL / KNDS / UAB LITHUANIA DEFENSE SERVICES JV**
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area ([2])

Dear Sir or Madam,

(1) On 8 February 2024, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Rheinmetall Landsysteme GmbH ('RLS', Germany), controlled by Rheinmetall AG ('Rheinmetall', Germany), and Krauss-Maffei Wegmann GmbH & Co. KG ('KMW', Germany), controlled by KNDS N.V. ('KNDS', Netherlands), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of UAB Lithuania Defense Services ('LDS', Lithuania). The concentration is accomplished by the extension of LDS's activities to third parties. LDS becomes a full-function venture within the meaning of the Merger Regulation and the shareholding of RLS and KMW remains the same as prior to the transaction. ([3])

(2) The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

– RLS is active in the development, manufacture, repair, sales and order and service handling of military tracked and wheeled vehicles, tower systems and NBC reconnaissance systems. RLS is wholly-owned by Rheinmetall, which is

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation'). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('TFEU') has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of 'Community' by 'Union' and 'common market' by 'internal market'. The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.
([2]) OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 (the 'EEA Agreement').
([3]) OJ C, C/2024/1612, 16.2.2024.

active in the manufacturing and supply of defence equipment and automotive components.

– KMW is active in the development, manufacture and support of a product portfolio ranging from highly protected wheeled vehicles through anti-aircraft and artillery systems to main battle tanks, infantry fighting vehicles and bridgelaying systems. KMW is part of KNDS, a Franco-German association in the land defence sector.

(3) LDS is active in the provision of after-sales services for military tracked and wheeled vehicles mainly in the Baltics and Poland.

(4) After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified treatment for certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. ([4])

(5) For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified treatment, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission

(Signed)
Olivier GUERSENT
Director-General

([4]) OJ C 160, 5.5.2023, p. 1 (the 'Notice on a simplified treatment').