V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9892 — Leonardo/Thales/VSB)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 383/08)

1. On 30 October 2020, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— Leonardo S.p.A. ('Leonardo', Italy),

— Thales S.A. ('Thales', France) and

— Vitrociset Space Business ('VSB', Italy) belonging to Vitrociset S.p.A. ('Vitrociset', Italy), controlled by Leonardo.

Leonardo and Thales acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of VSB.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares and assets.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Leonardo: active in aerospace, defence and security, energy, communications, transportation and automation services at worldwide level.

— Thales: active in aerospace, space, ground transportation, defence and security, and digital identity services at worldwide level.

— VSB: active in the provision of technical and engineering services, manufacturing, integration, operational management, maintenance, and logistics for the management of space systems.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([2]) it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9892 — Leonardo/Thales/VSB

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

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