PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9413 — Lactalis/Nuova Castelli)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2019/C 314/07)

1. On 9 September 2019, 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:

— Gruppo Lactalis Italia S.r.l. (Italy), belonging to the Lactalis Group (together 'Lactalis', France),

— Nuova Castelli SpA ('Nuova Castelli', Italy), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nuova Castelli Group SpA (France), in turn controlled by Charterhouse Capital Partners (United Kingdom).

Lactalis acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Nuova Castelli. The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Lactalis: producing and supplying cheese such as mozzarella, mascarpone and ricotta, as well as drinking milk, butter, fresh products, cream and industrial dairy products (milk powder, whey, etc.),

— for Nuova Castelli: producing and selling various Italian cheeses, mostly hard cheeses and soft cheeses (mozzarella, parmesan, grana padano, pecorino, ricotta, etc.) and has trading activity in relation essentially to mascarpone, feta and butter.

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.

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.9413 — Lactalis/Nuova Castelli

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

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
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([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').