PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9994 – Alcentra/Brait/New Look Retail Holdings)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 343/16)

1. On 8 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:

— Alcentra Limited ('Alcentra', the United Kingdom),

— Brait Societas Europaea ('Brait', Malta),

— New Look Retail Holdings Limited ('New Look', Jersey).

Alcentra and Brait acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of New Look.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Alcentra: global asset management firm focused on sub-investment grade corporate credit,

— for Brait: public investment holding company focused on investing in unlisted businesses operating in the broad consumer sector,

— for New Look: fashion retailer with an online presence and chain of high street shops primarily located in the UK and Ireland.

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.9994 – Alcentra/Brait/New Look Retail Holdings

([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:

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

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË