Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8907 — Aperam/VDM)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 395/06)

1. On 23 October 2018, 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:

— Aperam SA ('Aperam', Luxembourg), and

— VDM Metals Holding GmbH ('VDM', Germany).

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

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

— Aperam is a global player in stainless, electrical and specialty steel, also active in the production and sale of nickel alloys and corrosion resistance materials.

— VDM is a global producer of high-performance materials consisting of nickel and nickel alloys, special stainless steels, zirconium and cobalt-based alloys.

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.8907 — Aperam/VDM

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

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').