Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9437 — Würth Group/GES)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2019/C 264/05)

1. On 29 July 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:

— Fega & Schmitt Elektrogroßhandel GmbH (Germany), belonging to the group Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG ('Würth Group', Germany), and

— Grupo Electro Stocks, S.L.U. ('GES', Spain), controlled by APAX Edison Holdco, S.à.r.l. (Luxembourg).

Würth Group acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control over the whole of GES. The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Würth Group: wholesale distribution of products and systems manufactured by third parties mainly to professional end users in trade and industry, including electrical installation, industrial automation, cables and wires, tools, data and network technology, lighting and illumination, household appliances and multimedia products, as well as electrical domestic heating technology and regenerative power generation,

— for GES: distribution of electrical and fluid materials in Spain mainly to other professionals in the construction sector.

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.9437 — Würth Group/GES

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').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.