Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9174 — Aunde/Brose/JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 460/25)

1. On 12 December 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:

— AUNDE Group SE ('Aunde', Germany), belonging to the group Aunde,

— Brose Fahrzeugteile GmbH & Co. KG, Coburg ('Brose', Germany), belonging to the group Brose,

— a newly created joint venture ('the JV', Germany).

Aunde and Brose acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the JV.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Aunde: develops and produces upholstery and technical textiles, as well as seat covers for car manufacturers under the brands Aunde, Isringhausen and Fehrer,

— for Brose: produces seat structures for passenger cars,

— for the JV: will be active in the assembly and supply of complete car seats for passenger cars.

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.9174 — Aunde/Brose/JV

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
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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.