Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8356 — Wietersdorfer/Amiantit/HOBAS JV)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2017/C 220/18)

1. On 29 June 2017, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which the undertakings WIG Wietersdorfer Holding GmbH ('WIG', Austria) and Saudi Arabian Amiantit Company ('Amiantit', Saudi Arabia) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of HOBAS Pipes International GmbH ('Hobas Europe', Austria). Amiantit will contribute its European piping systems business into Hobas Europe, currently a wholly owned subsidiary of WIG, and acquire 50 % of its shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for WIG: manufacture and sale of pipes and pipe systems designed for the transport of water (drainage, sewage, irrigation and potable pressure water) and, to a limited extent, for industrial use within various types of plants. WIG is active globally,

— for Amiantit: manufacture and sale of pipes and pipe systems, sale of pipe technologies and the manufacture and supply of polymer products. Amiantit is active globally. Amiantit's European business is active in the production and sale of glass fiber reinforced plastic (GRP) pipes and pipe systems,

— for Hobas Europe: manufacture and sale of GRP pipes and pipes systems in Europe.

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. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.8356 — Wietersdorfer/Amiantit/HOBAS JV to the following 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').