Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.11098 - JACQUET METALS / SWISS STEEL COMPANIES)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2023/C 317/08)

1. On 29 August 2023, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— Jacquet Metals S.A. ('Jacquet Metals', France), belonging to the holding Jacquet Metals S.A.,

— Swiss Steel s.r.o (Czech Republic), Swiss Steel Baltic OÜ (Estonia), Swiss Steel Magyarorszag Kft (Hungary), Swiss Steel Baltic SIA (Latvia), Swiss Steel Baltic, UAB (Lithuania), Swiss Steel Polska Sp.z.o.o. (Poland) and Swiss Steel Slovakia s.r.o (Slovakia) (the 'Targets'), belonging to the Swiss Steel group.

Jacquet Metals will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the Targets.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

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

— Jacquet Metals is active in the distribution of specialty steel products and stainless steel products. In particular, its IMS Group division is active in the distribution of engineering steel products, Jacquet division in distribution of stainless steel and nickel alloy quarto plates and Stappert division in distribution of long stainless steel products. All are active in various European Member States.

— Swiss Steel Group owns the Targets, all active in the distribution of steel products, in particular carbon steel, stainless steel products, and special steel to a lesser extent. The Targets are active mainly in their respective countries of incorporation, and, to a lesser extent, in other EU Member States.

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.11098 - JACQUET METALS / SWISS STEEL COMPANIES

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email or by post. Please use the contact details below:

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

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

Postal address:

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