V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8872 — Advent International / Laird)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 146/06)

1. On 19 April 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:

— Advent International Corporation ('Advent', United States),

— Laird PLC ('Laird', the United Kingdom).

Advent acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of Laird.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Advent: a global private equity investor that focuses on investments in five core sectors, namely business and financial services; healthcare; industrial; retail, consumer and leisure; and technology, media and telecom. Amongst other portfolio companies, Advent owns Idemia, a global company which develops, manufactures and markets security technology products and services for the telecommunications, payments and identity markets.

— for Laird: a global technology company that provides systems, components and solutions that enable connectivity in mission-critical wireless applications and antenna systems and protect electronics from electromagnetic interference and heat.

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.8872 — Advent International / Laird

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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

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