V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8491 — PGA Group/Groupe Bernard/CDPR)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2017/C 205/09)

1. On 12 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 PGA Group SAS ('PGA Group', France) and Bernard Participations ('Groupe Bernard', France) will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control over CDPR, previously solely controlled by Groupe Bernard by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— PGA Group: active in the retail car and spare parts distribution with its main operations in France and further activities in Poland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain and Italy.

— Groupe Bernard: owns various automotive dealerships in France.

— CDPR: joint venture which will be active in the distribution of automoative spare parts to the extent that Groupe Bernard will transfer to CDPR the existing activities of one of its subsidiaries (SICMA), which is already active in this business segement.

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 this 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. 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.8491 — PGA Group/Groupe Bernard/CDPR, to the following 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.