Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9953 — CalSTRS/Altitude Group/AI THD)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 338/06)

1. On 5 October 2020, 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:

— Golden VinzClortho ('GVC', USA), controlled by CalSTRS (USA),

— Altitude Infrastructure Holding ('AIH', France), controlled by Altitude SAS, the controlling company of the Altitude Group (France),

— Altitude Infrastructure THD ('AI THD', France).

GVC and AIH acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of AI THD.

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 GVC: an investment fund controlled by CalSTRS, which is a passive equity investor and American pension fund that provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits to California's public school educators from prekindergarten through to community college,

— for AIH: the holding company of the wholesale telecommunications activities of the Altitude Group,

— for AI THD: French company active in the fibre development sector in France.

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.9953 — CalSTRS/Altitude Group/AI THD

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:

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Directorate-General for Competition
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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.