Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6590 — Santander Consumer UK/Hyundai Motor Company/Hyundai Capital UK Limited JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 166/07)

1. On 30 May 2012, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which Santander Consumer UK PLC ('SCUK', United Kingdom) belonging to the Santander Group and the Hyundai Motor Company ('HMC', Republic of Korea) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Hyundai Capital UK Limited ('the JV', United Kingdom) 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 SCUK: financial services including the wholesale and retail finance for the purchase of motor vehicles in the UK,

— for HMC: manufacture and supply of passengers cars, light commercial vehicles, spare parts and accessories for motor vehicles and the provision of wholesale and retail financing,

— for the JV: Retail (consumer) and wholesale finance for the purchase of the motor vehicles and insurance brokering services in the UK.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the EC 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 EC Merger Regulation ([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. 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 number COMP/M.6590 — Santander Consumer UK/Hyundai Motor Company/Hyundai Capital UK Limited JV, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'EC Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32 ('Notice on a simplified procedure').