PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6785 — General Motors France/SSPF/Auto Distribution Provence)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 372/12)

1. On 26 November 2012, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which General Motors France SAS ('GM France', France), belonging to General Motors Company ('GM', USA) and SSPF SAS ('SSPF', France), belonging to the Maurin Group (France), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of a newly constituted joint venture, Auto Distribution Provence SAS ('ADP', France), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for GM France: mainly active in the importation and wholesale distribution of GM branded vehicles and the supply of GM branded original spare parts in France,

— for SSPF: a holding company of the Maurin Group. The Maurin Group is active in the retail distribution of motor vehicles and related products and services as well as in the wholesale distribution of original spare parts of various brands.

3. ADP will be active in the retail distribution of new Opel vehicles and used vehicles, in the provision of maintenance and repair services and in the supply of Opel branded products and services in France.

4. 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 Merger Regulation ([2]) it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

5. 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.6785 — General Motors France/SSPF/Auto Distribution Provence, 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').