Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6799 — Mitsui/PAG/PAG Italy)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2013/C 7/05)

1. On 3 January 2013, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which Mitsui & Co., Ltd ('Mitsui', Japan) and Penske Automotive Group Inc. ('PAG', USA) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation indirect joint control over of a newly created joint venture PAG Italy Srl ('PAG Italy', Italy), by way of a purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Mitsui: major trading house engaged in a number of worldwide commodities and other businesses, including the sale of motor vehicles, motorcycles, motor vehicle and motorcycle parts and accessories,

— for PAG: automobile dealerships in North America, the United Kingdom and Germany, including sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and other ancillary products such as finance and insurance products,

— for PAG Italy: BMW dealerships in Italy.

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.6799 — Mitsui/PAG/PAG Italy, 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').