Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.2250 — DuPont/Air Products Chemicals/JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2000/C 345/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 22 November 2000 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 (1), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 (2), by which the US undertaking E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company (DuPont) and Air Products Chemicals Inc. (Air Products) acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of a newly created joint venture (NanoMaterials), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— DuPont: research, development, production, distribution and sales of chemical products, man-made fibres, plastics, agro-chemicals, paints, seed, pharmaceuticals and other materials,

— Air Products: research, development, production and distribution of industrial and specialty gases, polymer and performance chemicals and various chemical intermediates,

— NanoMaterials: research, development, production and distribution and sales of colloidal silica-based formulated and unformulated slurries for electronic polishing or planarisation applications.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 (3), 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.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2250 — DuPont/Air Products Chemicals/JV, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

(3) OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.