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(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.9970 — Cordes & Graefe/FACQ)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 71/09)

1. On 18 January 2021, 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:

- Cordes & Graefe KG ('Cordes & Graefe', Germany); and
- The FACQ Group ('FACQ', Belgium). FACQ includes:
 - (a) FACQ SA;
 - (b) Immobilière les blés d'or SA;
 - (c) Immobilière Weideveld SA; and
 - (d) Renoma SRL.

Cordes & Graefe acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation, sole control over FACQ.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Cordes & Graefe: wholesale and retail supply of sanitary, plumbing, ventilation, heating and air conditioning products, electrical equipment, roofing, excavation and industrial technologies, mainly to professional customers; and
- for FACQ: retail supply of sanitary, plumbing, ventilation, heating and air conditioning products to professional and non-professional customers.

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.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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.9970 — Cordes & Graefe/FACQ

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

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