

**Prior notification of a concentration****(Case COMP/M.3303 — GE/Vivendi Universal Entertainment)****Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2003/C 285/13)

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

1. On 20 November 2003 the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 <sup>(2)</sup>, by which the undertaking General Electric Company ('GE', USA) acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of Vivendi Universal Entertainment LLLP ('VUE', USA), currently controlled by Vivendi Universal SA (France), by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- GE: diversified manufacturing, technology and services company with a variety of business units, including NBC (National Broadcasting Company).
- VUE: production and distribution of feature films; operation of cable television networks; production and distribution of television programming; movie studio and theme park.

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 <sup>(3)</sup>, 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.3303 — GE/Vivendi Universal Entertainment, to:

European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Competition,  
Merger Registry,  
J-70,  
B-1049 Brussels.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.