

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case COMP/M.3833 — 3i SGR/Giochi Preziosi)**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2005/C 140/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 1 June 2005, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup> by which the undertakings 3i Group plc ('3i', United Kingdom) and Fingiochi S.p.A. ('Fingiochi', Italy), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking Giochi Preziosi S.p.A. ('Giochi Preziosi', Italy), currently controlled by Fingiochi, by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for undertaking 3i: private equity house and venture capital company,
- for undertaking Fingiochi: holding company of the Giochi Preziosi Group,
- for undertaking Giochi Preziosi: wholesale and retail sale of toys.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(2)</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 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 (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.3833 — 3i SGR/Giochi Preziosi, to the following address:

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

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.