

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case COMP/M.4037 — Gerdau/Grupo Santander/Bogey/Sidenor)**

**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2005/C 300/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 18 November 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 Gerdau S.A. ('Gerdau', Brazil), Banco Santander Central Hispano S.A. ('Grupo Santander', Spain) and Bogey Holding Company Spain S.L. ('Bogey', Spain) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of Corporación Sidenor, S.A. ('Sidenor', Spain) by way of purchase of shares and contract of management.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for undertaking Gerdau: manufacture and distribution of steel;
- for undertaking Grupo Santander: financial and banking activities;
- for undertaking Bogey: holding of securities;
- for undertaking Sidenor: manufacture and distribution of specialty steel.

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.4037 — Gerdau/Grupo Santander/Bogey/Sidenor, to the following address:

European Commission  
Competition DG  
Merger Registry  
J-70  
BE-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.