

V

*(Announcements)*PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPETITION
POLICY

COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.5377 — SNCF-VFE P/Bolloré/JV)****Candidate case for simplified procedure****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2009/C 108/08)

1. On 4 May 2009, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Voyage France Europe Partenaires (VFE P, France), which belongs to the SNCF group and is controlled by the French government, and Bolloré SA (Bolloré, France) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of a joint venture (JV, France) through the purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - VFE P: passenger transport services by rail in France and abroad,
 - SNCF: passenger and goods transport services by rail,
 - Bolloré: a holding company engaging in six activities: (i) production of industrial goods; (ii) provision of logistics and transport services; (iii) distribution of petroleum products; (iv) communication and media; (v) operation of plantations; and (vi) management of a portfolio of holdings,
 - JV: marketing and operation of an Internet access service and multimedia portal on-board high-speed trains in France and abroad.
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 ⁽²⁾, 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. They can be sent by fax (+32 2 2964301 or 2967244) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.5377 — SNCF-VFE P/Bolloré/JV, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
1049 Bruxelles/Brussels
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.