

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.7819 — Freudenberg/Toray/JVC)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2015/C 411/07)

1. On 4 December 2015, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertakings Freudenberg & Co. KG ('Freudenberg', Germany) and Toray Industries, Inc. ('Toray', Japan) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Japan Vilene Company Ltd ('JVC', Japan) by way of public bid and purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Freudenberg is active worldwide in the development, production and sale of seals, vibration control technology components, filters, nonwovens, release agents and specialty lubricants as well as mechatronics products.
- Toray is the parent company of the Toray group, which produces and sells fibres and textiles, plastics and chemicals, IT-related products, carbon fibre composite materials and products and services belonging to the area of life sciences, environment and engineering.
- JVC manufactures and sells nonwoven materials for different applications, such as apparel, medical and consumer materials, industrial materials, electrical materials, filter and automotive materials.

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 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 this 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 (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number M.7819 — Freudenberg/Toray/JVC, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.