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(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case M.8271 — Hitachi Chemical Company/FIAMM/JV)****Candidate case for simplified procedure****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2016/C 485/03)

1. On 19 December 2016, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertakings Hitachi Chemical Company Ltd ('HCC', Japan) controlled by Hitachi Ltd and FIAMM S.p.A. ('FIAMM', Italy) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of FIAMM's lead acid battery business by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for HCC: the production of functional materials such as electronics materials, inorganic materials, polymer science materials and printed wiring board materials and the production of advanced components and systems, such as automotive products, energy storage devices, electronics components and other diagnostic agents and instruments,
 - for FIAMM: the manufacture of automotive components such as horns, antennas and starter batteries and industrial (stand-by) batteries,
 - the joint venture encompasses the automotive and industrial lead acid batteries business of FIAMM, which will be jointly controlled by HCC and FIAMM.
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 M.8271 — Hitachi Chemical Company/FIAMM/JV, 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.