

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.3154 — Süd-Chemie/SABIC/Scientific Design)****Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2003/C 88/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 3 April 2003, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the undertakings Süd-Chemie AG (SC, Germany) and Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC, Saudi Arabia) acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of the undertaking Scientific Design Company, Inc. (SD, USA), currently controlled by the Germany company Linde AG, by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— SC: manufacture and sale of chemicals including catalysts,

— SABIC: manufacture and sale of chemicals,

— SD: licensing of technologies and manufacture of products to the chemical industry and related engineering services.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission notice on simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽³⁾, 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.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.3154 — Süd-Chemie/SABIC/Scientific Design, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
J-70,
B-1049 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.