

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case COMP/M.4139 — Sony/NEC/JV)**

(2006/C 54/02)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 24 February 2006, 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 Sony Corporation ('Sony', Japan) and NEC ('NEC', Japan) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture ('JV', Japan).

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Sony: electronic consumer products and their electronic components,
- NEC: IT products and services and network communications technology,
- JV: optical disk drives for computers.

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.

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.4139 — Sony/NEC/JV, to the following address:

European Commission  
Competition DG  
Merger Registry  
J-70  
B-1049 Brussels

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.