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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

II

*(Information)*INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8793 — Axión/Enagás/Axent)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2018/C 114/01)

On 8 March 2018, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32018M8793. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND
AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾**27 March 2018**

(2018/C 114/02)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate
USD US dollar	1,2376	CAD Canadian dollar	1,5949
JPY Japanese yen	131,04	HKD Hong Kong dollar	9,7113
DKK Danish krone	7,4489	NZD New Zealand dollar	1,7041
GBP Pound sterling	0,87940	SGD Singapore dollar	1,6208
SEK Swedish krona	10,2156	KRW South Korean won	1 328,86
CHF Swiss franc	1,1764	ZAR South African rand	14,4598
ISK Iceland króna	121,70	CNY Chinese yuan renminbi	7,7730
NOK Norwegian krone	9,5603	HRK Croatian kuna	7,4408
BGN Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR Indonesian rupiah	17 004,62
CZK Czech koruna	25,473	MYR Malaysian ringgit	4,7971
HUF Hungarian forint	312,85	PHP Philippine peso	64,955
PLN Polish zloty	4,2196	RUB Russian rouble	70,8200
RON Romanian leu	4,6558	THB Thai baht	38,650
TRY Turkish lira	4,9429	BRL Brazilian real	4,1051
AUD Australian dollar	1,6070	MXN Mexican peso	22,7905
		INR Indian rupee	80,4130

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

Commission communication in the framework of the implementation of Directive 2000/9/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to cableway installations designed to carry persons

(Publication of titles and references of harmonised standards under Union harmonisation legislation)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 114/03)

In accordance with the transitional provision of Article 46 of Regulation (EU) 2016/424 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on cableway installations and repealing Directive 2000/9/EC ⁽¹⁾, Member States shall not impede the making available on the market of subsystems or safety components covered by Directive 2000/9/EC ⁽²⁾ which are in conformity with that Directive and which were installed before 21 April 2018. Accordingly, harmonised standards the references of which have been published under Directive 2000/9/EC, as listed in column 2 of this Commission Communication, continue to confer presumption of conformity only with that Directive and only until 20 April 2018. Such presumption of conformity under Directive 2000/9/EC will cease as from 21 April 2018.

ESO ⁽¹⁾	Reference and title of the standard (and reference document)	First publication OJ	Reference of superseded standard	Date of cessation of presumption of conformity of superseded standard Note 1
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
CEN	EN 1709:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Precommissioning inspection, maintenance, operational inspection and checks	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 1908:2015 Safety requirements of cableway installations designed to carry persons - Tensioning devices	11.12.2015	EN 1908:2004 Note 2.1	19.5.2016
CEN	EN 1909:2017 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Recovery and evacuation	15.12.2017	EN 1909:2004 Note 2.1	31.3.2018
CEN	EN 12385-8:2002 Steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 8: Stranded hauling and carrying-hauling ropes for cableway installations designed to carry persons	24.4.2003		
CEN	EN 12385-9:2002 Steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 9: Locked coil carrying ropes for cableway installations designed to carry persons	24.4.2003		
CEN	EN 12397:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Operation	26.4.2005		

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 81, 31.3.2016, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 106, 3.5.2000, p. 21.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
CEN	EN 12927-1:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 1: Selection criteria for ropes and their end fixings	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-2:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 2: Safety factors	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-3:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 3: Long splicing of 6 strand hauling, carrying hauling and towing ropes	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-4:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 4: End fixings	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-5:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 5: Storage, transportation, installation and tensioning	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-6:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 6: Discard criteria	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-7:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 7: Inspection, repair and maintenance	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12927-8:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 8: Magnetic rope testing (MRT)	26.4.2005		
CEN	EN 12929-1:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - General requirements - Part 1: Requirements for all installations	14.8.2015	EN 12929-1:2004 Note 2.1	31.1.2016

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
CEN	EN 12929-2:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - General requirements - Part 2: Additional requirements for reversible bicable aerial ropeways without carrier truck brakes	14.8.2015	EN 12929-2:2004 Note 2.1	31.1.2016
CEN	EN 12930:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Calculations	14.8.2015	EN 12930:2004 Note 2.1	31.1.2016
CEN	EN 13107:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Civil engineering works	11.12.2015	EN 13107:2004 Note 2.1	19.5.2016
	EN 13107:2015/AC:2016			
CEN	EN 13223:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Drive systems and other mechanical equipment	11.12.2015	EN 13223:2004 Note 2.1	19.5.2016
CEN	EN 13243:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Electrical equipment other than for drive systems	14.8.2015	EN 13243:2004 Note 2.1	31.1.2016
CEN	EN 13796-1:2017 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Carriers - Part 1: Grips, carrier trucks, on-board brakes, cabins, chairs, carriages, maintenance carriers, tow-hangers	15.12.2017	EN 13796-1:2005 Note 2.1	31.3.2018
CEN	EN 13796-2:2005 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Carriers - Part 2: Slipping resistance test for grips	20.9.2005		
CEN	EN 13796-3:2005 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Carriers - Part 3: Fatigue tests	20.9.2005		

(¹) ESO: European standardisation organisation:

- CEN: Rue de la Science 23, 1040 Brussels, BELGIUM; tel. +32 25500811; fax +32 25500819 (<http://www.cen.eu>)
- Cenelec: Rue de la Science 23, 1040 Brussels, BELGIUM; tel. +32 25500811; fax: +32 25500819 (<http://www.cenelec.eu>)
- ETSI: 650 route des Lucioles, 06921 Sophia Antipolis, FRANCE; tel. +33 492944200; fax +33 493654716 (<http://www.etsi.eu>)

Note 1: Generally the date of cessation of presumption of conformity will be the date of withdrawal ('dow'), set by the European standardisation organisation, but attention of users of these standards is drawn to the fact that in certain exceptional cases this can be otherwise.

- Note 2.1: The new (or amended) standard has the same scope as the superseded standard. On the date stated, the superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation.
- Note 2.2: The new standard has a broader scope than the superseded standard. On the date stated the superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation.
- Note 2.3: The new standard has a narrower scope than the superseded standard. On the date stated the (partially) superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation for those products or services that fall within the scope of the new standard. Presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation for products or services that still fall within the scope of the (partially) superseded standard, but that do not fall within the scope of the new standard, is unaffected.
- Note 3: In case of amendments, the referenced standard is EN CCCCC:YYYY, its previous amendments, if any, and the new, quoted amendment. The superseded standard therefore consists of EN CCCCC:YYYY and its previous amendments, if any, but without the new quoted amendment. On the date stated, the superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation.

NOTE:

- Any information concerning the availability of the standards can be obtained either from the European standardisation organisations or from the national standardisation bodies the list of which is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* according to Article 27 of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 ⁽¹⁾.
- Standards are adopted by the European standardisation organisations in English (CEN and Cenelec also publish in French and German). Subsequently, the titles of the standards are translated into all other required official languages of the European Union by the national standardisation bodies. The European Commission is not responsible for the correctness of the titles which have been presented for publication in the Official Journal.
- References to Corrigenda ‘.../AC:YYYY’ are published for information only. A Corrigendum removes printing, linguistic or similar errors from the text of a standard and may relate to one or more language versions (English, French and/or German) of a standard as adopted by a European standardisation organisation.
- Publication of the references in the *Official Journal of the European Union* does not imply that the standards are available in all the official languages of the European Union.
- This list replaces all the previous lists published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. The European Commission ensures the updating of this list.
- More information about harmonised standards and other European standards on the Internet at
http://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/european-standards/harmonised-standards/index_en.htm

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 338, 27.9.2014, p. 31.

Commission Communication in the framework of the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/424 of the European Parliament and of the Council on cableway installations and repealing Directive 2000/9/EC

(Publication of titles and references of harmonised standards under Union harmonisation legislation)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 114/04)

This is the first list of references of harmonised standards published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* under Regulation (EU) 2016/424 ⁽¹⁾.

ESO ⁽¹⁾	Reference and title of the standard (and reference document)	Date of start of presumption of conformity Note 0	Reference of superseded standard	Date of cessation of presumption of conformity of superseded standard Note 1
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
CEN	EN 1709:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Precommissioning inspection, maintenance, operational inspection and checks	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 1908:2015 Safety requirements of cableway installations designed to carry persons - Tensioning devices	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 1909:2017 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Recovery and evacuation	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12385-8:2002 Steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 8: Stranded hauling and carrying-hauling ropes for cableway installations designed to carry persons	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12385-9:2002 Steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 9: Locked coil carrying ropes for cableway installations designed to carry persons	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12927-1:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 1: Selection criteria for ropes and their end fixings	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12927-3:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 3: Long splicing of 6 strand hauling, carrying hauling and towing ropes	21.4.2018		

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 81, 31.3.2016, p. 1.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
CEN	EN 12927-4:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 4: End fixings	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12927-5:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 5: Storage, transportation, installation and tensioning	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12927-8:2004 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Ropes - Part 8: Magnetic rope testing (MRT)	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 12930:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Calculations	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 13107:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Civil engineering works	21.4.2018		
	EN 13107:2015/AC:2016			
CEN	EN 13223:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Drive systems and other mechanical equipment	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 13243:2015 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Electrical equipment other than for drive systems	21.4.2018		
CEN	EN 13796-1:2017 Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons - Carriers - Part 1: Grips, carrier trucks, on-board brakes, cabins, chairs, carriages, maintenance carriers, tow-hangers	21.4.2018		

(¹) ESO: European standardisation organisation:

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- ETSI: 650 route des Lucioles, 06921 Sophia Antipolis, FRANCE; tel. +33 492944200; fax +33 493654716 (<http://www.etsi.eu>)

Note 0: This is the date from which compliance with the harmonised standard or parts thereof confers a presumption of conformity with the relevant requirements of Union legislation

Note 1: Generally the date of cessation of presumption of conformity will be the date of withdrawal ('dow'), set by the European standardisation organisation, but attention of users of these standards is drawn to the fact that in certain exceptional cases this can be otherwise.

- Note 2.1: The new (or amended) standard has the same scope as the superseded standard. On the date stated, the superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation.
- Note 2.2: The new standard has a broader scope than the superseded standard. On the date stated the superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation.
- Note 2.3: The new standard has a narrower scope than the superseded standard. On the date stated the (partially) superseded standard ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation for those products or services that fall within the scope of the new standard. Presumption of conformity with the essential or other requirements of the relevant Union legislation for products or services that still fall within the scope of the (partially) superseded standard, but that do not fall within the scope of the new standard, is unaffected.
- Note 3: In case of amendments, the referenced standard is EN CCCCC:YYYY, its previous amendments, if any, and the new, quoted amendment.

NOTE:

- Any information concerning the availability of the standards can be obtained either from the European standardisation organisations or from the national standardisation bodies the list of which is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* according to Article 27 of the Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 ⁽¹⁾.
- Standards are adopted by the European standardisation organisations in English (CEN and Cenelec also publish in French and German). Subsequently, the titles of the standards are translated into all other required official languages of the European Union by the national standardisation bodies. The European Commission is not responsible for the correctness of the titles which have been presented for publication in the Official Journal.
- References to Corrigenda ‘.../AC:YYYY’ are published for information only. A Corrigendum removes printing, linguistic or similar errors from the text of a standard and may relate to one or more language versions (English, French and/or German) of a standard as adopted by a European standardisation organisation.
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⁽¹⁾ OJ C 338, 27.9.2014, p. 31.

Networking of organisations operating in the fields within the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA's) mission

(2018/C 114/05)

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾, Article 36(2), provides that the European Food Safety Authority's 'Management Board, acting on a proposal from the Executive Director, shall draw up a list to be made public of competent organisations designated by the Member States which may assist the Authority, either individually or in networks, with its mission.'

The list was first drawn up by EFSA's Management Board on 19 December 2006, and since then is:

- i. updated regularly, on the basis of proposals from EFSA's Executive Director, taking account of reviews or new designation proposals from the Member States (in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004 ⁽²⁾, Article 2(4));
- ii. made public on EFSA's website, where the latest updated list of competent organisations is published; and
- iii. made available through the Article 36 Search Tool to the organisations, providing contact details and the organisations' specific fields of competence.

This respective information is available on the EFSA website, under the following links:

- i. the latest amendment to the list of competent organisations by EFSA's Management Board on 21 March 2018 — <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/180321>
- ii. the updated list of competent organisations – <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/art36listg.pdf> and
- iii. Article 36 Search Tool – <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/art36/search>

EFSA will keep this notification updated, specifically regarding the provided website links.

For more information please contact Cooperation.Article36@efsa.europa.eu

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2230/2004 of 23 December 2004 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 with regard to the network of organisations operating in the fields within the European Food Safety Authority's mission (OJ L 379, 24.12.2004, p. 64).

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

Notification pursuant to Article 114, paragraph 4 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — Authorisation to maintain national measures which are more stringent than provisions of an EU harmonisation measure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 114/06)

1. By letter of 10 November 2017, which reached the Commission on 14 November 2017, Denmark notified the Commission of its wish to maintain ⁽¹⁾ national provisions on the use of nitrite additives in meat products that differ from Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽²⁾ into Danish law. Order No 1044 of 4 September 2015 on food additives etc. in foodstuffs (BEK nr 1044 af 04.09.2015, Udskriftsdato: 25.09.2017, Fødevarerministeriet). The notification concerns the substances potassium nitrite (E 249) and sodium nitrite (E 250) (nitrites) in Annex II Part E to the Regulation, food category 8 (EU list).

2. The maximum levels were originally laid down in Directive 2006/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽³⁾. This Directive was adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on 5 July 2006 and is based on Article 95 of the EC Treaty (now Article 114 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union — TFEU). With regard to the use of nitrates and nitrites in meat products it aims to strike a balance between the protective effects of nitrites against the multiplication of the bacteria responsible for life-threatening botulism and the risk of the formation of carcinogenic nitrosamines through the presence of nitrites in meat products, in line with scientific advice received from the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the Scientific Committee for Food (SCF).

European Parliament and Council Directive 95/2/EC ⁽⁴⁾ as it was adopted originally laid down maximum residual levels for nitrites and nitrates in various meat products. By contrast, Directive 2006/52/EC introduces the principle, recommended in an EFSA opinion from 2003, that the control of nitrites should be regulated in the form of maximum amounts that may be added during the manufacture of meat products for potassium nitrite (E 249) and sodium nitrite (E 250). The amount is 150 mg/kg for meat products in general and 100 mg/kg for sterilised meat products.

By way of exception, Directive 2006/52/EC contains maximum residual levels for certain specified traditionally produced meat products, where it was not possible to control the ingoing amounts because of their traditional manufacturing process.

This authorised use of nitrites was transferred in the new Union list of food additives approved for use in foods and conditions of use, in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008, which was established by Commission Regulation (EU) No 1129/2011 ⁽⁵⁾.

3. The Danish Order No 1044 allows the addition of potassium nitrite (E 249) and sodium nitrite (E 250) to meat products only in so far as specific added amounts are not exceeded. Depending on the products in question these maximum amounts are 0, 60, 100 or 150 mg/kg. Unlike Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008, the Danish provisions do not contain any exceptions to the principle of fixing maximum added amounts for nitrites, thereby not permitting the placing on the market of certain traditionally manufactured meat products from other Member States. In so far as the 0 and the 60 mg/kg limits apply, the Danish legislation, in addition, contains lower limits for added amounts of nitrites than the Regulation for a number of meat products.

⁽¹⁾ An authorisation for 3 years was granted by Commission Decision (EU) 2015/826 (OJ L 130, 28.5.2015, p. 10).

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on food additives (OJ L 354, 31.12.2008, p. 16).

⁽³⁾ Directive 2006/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 amending Directive 95/2/EC on food additives other than colours and sweeteners and Directive 94/35/EC on sweeteners for use in foodstuffs (OJ L 204, 26.7.2006, p. 10).

⁽⁴⁾ European Parliament and Council Directive 95/2/EC of 20 February 1995 on food additives other than colours and sweeteners (OJ L 61, 18.3.1995, p. 1).

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Regulation (EU) No 1129/2011 of 11 November 2011 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing a Union list of food additives (OJ L 295, 12.11.2011, p. 1).

4. The Danish provisions are therefore more stringent than Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 in relation to the addition of nitrites to meat products.

5. The Kingdom of Denmark considers that, unlike Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008, the current Danish provisions are fully consistent with the opinion of EFSA ⁽¹⁾ that safe meat products generally can be produced by the addition of as little as 50 mg per kg nitrite.

Denmark also points out that, through the lower maximum added amounts, the Danish provisions further minimise the risk posed by nitrosamines which is its primary concern.

Denmark emphasises that, despite the fact that its rules providing for lower levels of nitrites which may be added to meat products have been in place for many years, they have never given rise to problems with preservation of the products concerned and that Denmark has a very low rate of botulism compared with other Member States, and not a single case caused by meat products has been recorded since before 1980.

The latest figures provided by Denmark show that the trend in consumption patterns has not changed significantly since the Commission Decisions 2010/561/EU ⁽²⁾ and (EU) 2015/826 ⁽³⁾. Danes' consumption of meat is rising steadily including cold cuts which contained added nitrites, and imports of meat products from other Member States are increasing.

6. In 2014 the Commission finalised a desk study to monitor the implementation by the Member States of the EU rules on nitrites. The study was based on the responses to a questionnaire that was submitted to all Member States. It revealed that with some exceptions, the typical amount of nitrites added to non-sterilised meat products is lower than the EU maximum amount, but higher than the Danish levels. It was concluded that the possibility to review the current maximum levels of nitrites should be further explored.

The Commission therefore launched an ad hoc study, completed in January 2016, as regards the use and the need of nitrites by industry in different categories of meat products, including protection against *Clostridium botulinum*. Based on data collected through a literature review, a survey and an expert workshop conducted for this study, results indicate that there is a possibility to review the current maximum levels of nitrites authorised.

Furthermore, Commission Regulation (EU) No 257/2010 ⁽⁴⁾ requires that EFSA re-evaluates the safety of the use of nitrites. EFSA delivered a Scientific Opinion on the re-evaluation of potassium nitrite (E 249) and sodium nitrite (E 250) as food additives on 15 June 2017 ⁽⁵⁾. EFSA derived an Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) of 0,07 mg nitrite ion/kg bw per day and clarified that the exposure to nitrite resulting from its use as food additive did not exceed this ADI for the general population, except for a slight exceedance in children at the highest percentile. However, if all sources of dietary nitrite exposure were considered together (food additives, natural presence and contamination), the ADI would be exceeded in infants, toddlers and children at the mean and for all age groups at highest exposure. The exposure to the endogenous nitrosamines was considered to be of low concern whilst there was some concern as regards the exposure to exogenous nitrosamines. The EFSA opinion also states that more research was needed to address uncertainties and knowledge gaps and that it was not possible to clearly discern nitrosamines produced from the nitrite added at the authorised levels from those found in the food matrix without addition of external nitrite. In epidemiological studies there was some evidence to link (i) dietary nitrite and gastric cancers; and (ii) the combination of nitrite plus nitrate from processed meat and colorectal cancers, and there was evidence to link preformed N-nitrosodimethylamine and colorectal cancers.

The conclusions of the desk study with the Member States, the ad hoc study as regards the use of nitrites by industry, the re-evaluation by EFSA and the data reported by Denmark, allows the Commission to further consider a potential review of the maximum levels of nitrites.

⁽¹⁾ The EFSA Journal (2003) 14, 1-31, The effects of Nitrites/Nitrates on the Microbiological Safety of Meat Products.

⁽²⁾ Commission Decision 2010/561/EU of 25 May 2010 concerning national provisions notified by Denmark on the addition of nitrite to certain meat products (OJ L 247, 21.9.2010, p. 55).

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision (EU) 2015/826 of 22 May 2015 concerning national provisions notified by Denmark on the addition of nitrite to certain meat products (OJ L 130, 28.5.2015, p. 10).

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Regulation (EU) No 257/2010 of 25 March 2010 setting up a programme for the re-evaluation of approved food additives in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on food additives (OJ L 80, 26.3.2010, p. 19).

⁽⁵⁾ EFSA Journal 2017;15(6):4786

7. The Commission will process this notification in accordance with Article 114(4) and (6) TFEU. Article 114(4) provides that if, after the adoption of an EU harmonisation measure, a Member State wishes to maintain its more stringent national provisions on grounds of major needs referred to in Article 36 TFEU or relating to the protection of the environment or the working environment, it shall notify them to the Commission indicating the reasons for maintaining them. Following the notification of the Danish provisions the Commission has 6 months to approve or reject them. In this period the Commission shall verify whether the maintenance of the Danish provisions is justified on grounds of major needs referred to in Article 36 or relating to the protection of the environment, and that they do not constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade and that they do not create an unnecessary and disproportionate obstacle to the functioning of the internal market.

8. Any party who wishes to provide comments on this notification must send them to the Commission within 30 days from the publication of this notice. Any comment submitted after this period will not be taken into account.

9. Further details about the Danish notification can be obtained from:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety
DG SANTE — Unit E2 Food Processing Technologies and Novel Foods
Jiri Sochor

Tel. +32 22976930
Email: jiri.sochor@ec.europa.eu

Commission information notice pursuant to Article 16(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 114/07)

Member State	Spain
Route concerned	Menorca-Madrid
Reopening date of the PSO route to community air carriers	1 October 2018
Address where the text and any other information or documentation related to the public service obligations can be obtained.	Ministerio de Fomento Dirección General de Aviación Civil Subdirección General de Transporte Aéreo Paseo de la Castellana 67 28071 Madrid MADRID ESPAÑA Tel. +34 915977505 Fax +34 915978643 Email: osp.dgac@fomento.es

The route subject to public service obligations may be operated on the basis of free competition access as from 1 October 2018. In the event that no air carrier submits a program of services compliant with the public service obligations imposed, access may be restricted to a single air carrier through the corresponding public tender procedure, in accordance with Article 16(9) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008.

Commission information notice pursuant to Article 17(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Invitation to tender in respect of the operation of scheduled air services in accordance with public service obligations

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 114/08)

Member State	Spain
Route concerned	Almeria-Seville
Period of validity of the contract	4 years following the start of the operations
Deadline for submission of tenders	2 months following the date of publication of this notice
Address where the text of the invitation to tender and any relevant information and/or documentation related to the public tender and the public service obligation can be obtained	Ministerio de Fomento Dirección General de Aviación Civil Subdirección General de Transporte Aéreo Paseo de la Castellana 67 28071 Madrid MADRID ESPAÑA Tel. +34 915977505 Fax +34 915978643 Email: osp.dgac@fomento.es

Commission information notice pursuant to Article 17(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Invitation to tender in respect of the operation of scheduled air services in accordance with public service obligations

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 114/09)

Member State	Spain
Routes concerned	Tenerife Norte-La Gomera Gran Canaria-La Gomera
Period of validity of the contract	3 years following the start of the operations
Deadline for submission of tenders	2 months following the date of publication of this notice
Address where the text of the invitation to tender and any relevant information and/or documentation related to the public tender and the public service obligations can be obtained	Ministerio de Fomento Dirección General de Aviación Civil Subdirección General de Transporte Aéreo Paseo de la Castellana 67 28071 Madrid MADRID ESPAÑA Tel. +34 915977505 Fax +34 915978643 Email: osp.dgac@fomento.es

V

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

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case M.8807 — Spectris/Macquarie Group/Soundwave Holdings)****Candidate case for simplified procedure****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2018/C 114/10)

1. On 21 March 2018, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Spectris Group Holdings Limited (United Kingdom), belonging to the Spectris group ('Spectris', United Kingdom),
- Macquarie Corporate Holdings Pty Limited (Australia), belonging to the Macquarie group ('Macquarie', Australia),
- Soundwave Holdings Pty Ltd ('Soundwave Holdings' or 'JV', Australia) a newly created JV to which Spectris will contribute part of its business.

Spectris and Macquarie acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Soundwave Holdings.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Spectris: manufacture and supply of productivity-enhancing instrumentation and controls for technically-demanding industrial applications,
- for Macquarie: asset management and finance, banking, advisory and risk and capital solutions across debt, equity and commodities,
- for Soundwave Holdings: environmental monitoring services to businesses.

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 the 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.

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.8807 — Spectris/Macquarie Group/Soundwave Holdings

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

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

OTHER ACTS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Notice concerning a request pursuant to Article 35 of Directive 2014/25/EU**Suspension of the period for adoption of implementing acts**

(2018/C 114/11)

On 30 January 2017 the Commission received a request pursuant to Article 35 of Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.

This request, made by Eneco B.V. and N.V. Nuon Energy, concerns certain activities in the market for retail of electricity and gas in the Netherlands.

The relevant notices were published in OJ C 85 of 18.3.2017, p. 6, in OJ C 212 of 1.7.2017, p. 24, in OJ C 439 of 20.12.2017, p. 14 and in OJ C 444 of 23.12.2017, p. 17.

Pursuant to Annex IV, paragraph 2, of Directive 2014/25/EU, the Commission may require the Member State or the contracting entity concerned or the competent independent national authority or any other competent national authority to provide all necessary information or to supplement or clarify information given within an appropriate time limit. On 21 December 2017 the Commission asked the applicant to provide additional information by 10 January 2018 at the latest.

In the event of late or incomplete answers, the initial deadline shall be suspended for the period between the expiry of the time limit set in the request for information, and the receipt of the complete and correct information.

The final deadline will therefore expire after 52 working days after the receipt of the complete and correct information.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

Notice concerning a request pursuant to Article 35 of Directive 2014/25/EU**Request made by a Member State — suspension of the deadline**

(2018/C 114/12)

On 2 November 2016 the Commission received a request in accordance with Article 35 of Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.

This request, from the Czech Republic, concerns certain activities in the market for retail of electricity and gas in the Czech Republic. The relevant notices were published on page 10 of OJ C 23 of 24 January 2017, on page 10 of OJ C 167 of 25 May 2017, on page 4 of OJ C 276 of 19 August 2017, on page 18 of OJ C 396 of 23 November 2017 and on page 12 of OJ C 439 of 20 December 2017.

Pursuant to Annex IV, paragraph 2, of Directive 2014/25/EU, the Commission may require the Member State or the contracting entity concerned or the competent independent national authority or any other competent national authority to provide all necessary information or to supplement or clarify information given within an appropriate time limit. On 21 December 2017 the Commission asked the Czech Authorities to provide additional information by 10 January 2018 at the latest.

In the event of late or incomplete answers, the initial deadline shall be suspended for the period between the expiry of the time limit set in the request for information, and the receipt of the complete and correct information.

The final deadline will therefore expire after 55 working days after the receipt of the complete and correct information.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

Notice concerning a request pursuant to Article 35 of Directive 2014/25/EU**Request made by a contracting entity**

(2018/C 114/13)

On 1 March 2018 the Commission received a request in accordance with Article 35 of Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾. The first working day following receipt of the request is 2 March 2018.

This request is made by Finavia Oyj and concerns activities relating to the provision of businesses premises for commercial actors providing commercial services (duty free, retail, food and beverages and other passenger services) for flight passengers at Helsinki airport's terminals in Finland.

Article 34 of Directive 2014/25/EU provides that 'contracts intended to enable an activity mentioned in Articles 8 to 14 to be carried out shall not be subject to this Directive if the Member State or the contracting entities having introduced the request pursuant to Article 35 can demonstrate that, in the Member State in which it is performed, the activity is directly exposed to competition on markets to which access is not restricted; nor shall design contests that are organised for the pursuit of such an activity in that geographic area be subject to this Directive'. The assessment of direct exposure to competition that can be carried out in the context of Directive 2014/25/EU is without prejudice to the full-fledged application of competition law.

The Commission is allowed a period of 145 working days to take a decision on this request, commencing on the working day referred to above. The period therefore expires on 3 October 2018.

According to Article 35(5) of Directive 2014/25/EU, further requests concerning the same activity in Finland submitted before the expiry of the period opened in respect of this request shall not be considered as new procedures and shall be treated in the context of this request.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement procedures by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

