

**Prior notification of a concentration****(Case M.8045 — Boskalis/Volker Wessels Offshore Business)****Candidate case for simplified procedure****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2016/C 192/05)

1. On 20 May 2016, 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 undertaking Royal Boskalis Westminster NV ('Boskalis', Netherlands) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the undertakings Stemat Holding BV ('Stemat', Netherlands), Volker Stevin International Holding BV ('VSI', Netherlands) and VBMS Holding BV ('VBMS', Netherlands) (together 'Volker Wessels Offshore business'), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- For Boskalis: dredging, offshore installation, offshore transport, towage and salvage as well as inland infrastructure. Boskalis' services are primarily offered to the oil and gas sector, the wind energy sector, ports and to projects related to land reclamation and coastal protection.
- For Volker Wessels Offshore business: rental and lease of commodity vessels, installation, maintenance and replacement services of subsea power cables and multipurpose cables, and offshore construction services. These services are predominantly provided to the offshore wind energy sector.

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 <sup>(2)</sup> 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.8045 — Boskalis/Volker Wessels Offshore Business, to the following address:

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

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.