

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.4975 — Mitsui/Rubis/JV)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2007/C 311/16)

1. On 13 December 2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertakings Mitsui & Co, Ltd ('Mitsui', Japan) and Rubis group ('Rubis', France) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking Rubis Terminal Antwerp (Belgium) by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Mitsui: trading in a number of worldwide commodities including, *inter alia*, power and energy-related products, iron and steel, and non-ferrous metals,
- for Rubis: storage of liquid industrial products and distribution of LPG and petroleum products in Europe, Africa and the Caribbean,
- for Rubis Terminal Antwerp: tank terminal services for liquid industrial products at the port of Antwerp.

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. 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 the 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 ((32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.4975 — Mitsui/Rubis/JV, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.