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M.8399 - CWS-BOCO / RENTOKIL INITIAL TARGET BUSINESSES

SECTION 1.2

Description of the concentration

On 26 April 2017, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004, by which CWS-boco International GmbH, Duisburg/Germany ("CWS-boco"), will, by means of a share purchase agreement, acquire the textile, washroom, cleanroom and dust mats businesses of Rentokil Initial plc, Camberley/UK ("Rentokil Initial"), in a number of Member States (the "RI Target Business"). Rentokil Initial will obtain a minority shareholding in the newly formed entity.

As a result of the proposed concentration, CWS-boco will acquire sole control over the RI Target Business within the meaning of Article 3 (1)(b) EU Merger Regulation.

The RI Target Business markets, supplies and sells:

- textiles solutions in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia, and Switzerland;
- cleanroom solutions in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland;
- washroom solutions in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland; and
- mats solutions in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland.

CWS-boco operates in the textiles, washroom, cleanroom and dust mats sector in the EU, in particular in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Sweden, and in Switzerland and China. CWS-boco is a wholly owned subsidiary of Franz Haniel & Cie. GmbH, Duisburg/Germany ("Haniel"). In addition to CWS boco, Haniel has majority shareholdings in companies active in the areas of fabrics for mattress covers, trading, processing and recycling of raw materials for the stainless steel industry, and B2B direct marketing for business equipment.

Rentokil Initial provides textile, washroom, cleanroom and dust mats solutions. Further, Rentokil Initial operates pest control, office plants and landscaping, dental, medical, scenting, property care, brand standards auditing and specialist hygiene businesses in various countries in and outside the EU.