

***Case No COMP/M.3371 -
BLACKSTONE /
CELANESE***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

**REGULATION (EEC) No 4064/89
MERGER PROCEDURE**

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 10/03/2004

*Also available in the CELEX database
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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 10.03.2004

SG-Greffe(2004) D/200951

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying party via
the legal representative

Dear Sirs,

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.3371 – BLACKSTONE/CELANESE
Notification of 09.02.2004 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC)
No. 4064/89¹, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97²
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 39, 13/02/2004,
page 5.**

1. On 09.02.2004, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 4064/89 by which which the undertaking Blackstone (“Blackstone”, USA) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Celanese AG (“Celanese”, Germany) by way of public bid announced on 02.02.2004.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for Blackstone: Merchant-banking firm. Financial advisory services, private equity investing and property investment.
 - for Celanese: Industrial chemicals.

¹ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989 p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

² OJ L 180, 9. 7. 1997, p. 1; corrigendum OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

3. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 4064/89 and of paragraph 4, subparagraph c of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89³.
4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the common market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 4064/89.

For the Commission, signed
Mario MONTI
Member of the Commission

³ OJ C 217, 29.07.2000, p. 32.