

***Case No COMP/M.4857 -
3i / ACCORD***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

**REGULATION (EC) No 139/2004
MERGER PROCEDURE**

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 13/09/2007

***In electronic form on the EUR-Lex website under document
number 32007M4857***



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 13/09/2007

SG-Greffe(2007) 205462

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying party

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Subject: Case No COMP/M.4857-3i/ ACCORD
Notification of 9 August 2007 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation
No 139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 192 of
18/08/2007, p.21**

1. On 09/08/2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the undertaking Kirk Newco plc, a company which is ultimately controlled by 3i Group plc and funds managed by 3i Investments plc ("3i", UK), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of Accord Limited and the group of companies controlled by it ("Accord", UK), by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - 3i: international private equity house and venture capital company providing management advice and management to investment funds;
 - Accord: providing outsourced services primarily to the public sector (highway, environmental, housing, facility management and consultancy services).

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004 p. 1.

3. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004 and of paragraph 5, subparagraph (c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004².

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 (EC) No. 139/2004.

For the Commission

signed
Philip LOWE
Director General

² OJ C 56, 05.3.2005 p.32