EUROPEAN COMMISSION DG Competition

Case M.7921 - CINVEN / KURT GEIGER

Only the English text is available and authentic.

REGULATION (EC) No 139/2004 MERGER PROCEDURE

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION Date: 10/02/2016

In electronic form on the EUR-Lex website under document number 32016M7921



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 10.02.2016 C(2016) 912 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER PROCEDURE

To the notifying party:

Dear Sirs,

<u>Subject</u>: Case M.7921 – CINVEN / KURT GEIGER Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004¹ and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area²

- On 18 January 2016, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Cinven Capital Management (V) General Partner Limited, part of the Cinven group, ("Cinven", UK) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control over Kurt Geiger Topco Limited ("Kurt Geiger", Cayman Islands) by way of purchase of shares.³
- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - Cinven: private equity business engaged in the provision of investment management and investment advisory services to a number of investment funds active in a wide range of sub-sectors, mainly business services, consumer, financial services, healthcare, industrials, and technology, media and telecommunications.

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the "Merger Regulation"). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ("TFEU") has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of "Community" by "Union" and "common market" by "internal market". The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

² OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 ("the EEA Agreement").

³ Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 26, 23.1.2016, p.5.

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- Kurt Geiger: London-based retailer of shoes and accessories for men and women that
 offers products through its stores globally and concessions within department stores and
 online.
- 3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.⁴
- 4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission (Signed) Johannes LAITENBERGER Director-General

⁴ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.