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COMP/M.4477 - SES ASTRA/EUTELSAT/JV

SECTION 1.2

Description of the concentration

On 20 June 2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the satellite operators SES Astra and Eutelsat acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the said Council Regulation joint control by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for SES Astra: commercial satellite operator;
- for Eutelsat: commercial satellite operator;
- for the joint venture: development and commercialisation of satellite infrastructure for the provision of satellite-based broadcast and two-way communication services for handheld mobile devices.