

Disclaimer :

The Competition DG makes the information provided by the notifying parties in section 1.2 of Form CO available to the public in order to increase transparency. This information has been prepared by the notifying parties under their sole responsibility, and its content in no way prejudices the view the Commission may take of the planned operation. Nor can the Commission be held responsible for any incorrect or misleading information contained therein.

COMP/M.5282 – Barclays/Computerlinks

SECTION 1.2

Description of the concentration

On 22 July 2008 the Commission received the notification¹ of a proposed concentration by which Barclays Private Equity Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Barclays Bank PLC (“Barclays Bank”), will acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the EC Merger Regulation, sole control of Computerlinks AG, a public company incorporated under German law, and its various subsidiaries (collectively “Computerlinks”).

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Computerlinks supplies, at the wholesale level, hardware, software, and software updates, primarily in the area of e-security. In addition, Computerlinks provides related IT services such as pre- and after-sales support, marketing support, reseller training and logistics solutions.
- Barclays Bank, a public company, is a financial services provider that offers, together with its affiliated companies, universal financial services to private and corporate clients. Barclays Bank is active in the business areas of institutional asset management and investment banking. Barclays Private Equity Ltd manages a number of funds advised by Barclays Bank’s private equity business unit Barclays Private Equity. Funds advised by Barclays Private Equity hold a number of portfolio companies in various industries. One of them, DigiPoS, manufactures and offers point-of-sale solutions (hardware, software, and services) for end customers in the retail and hospitality sectors, *i.e.*, IT products and services in no way related to those provided by Computerlinks.

¹ Pursuant to Article 4 of the EC Merger Regulation.