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M.7217 - FACEBOOK / WHATSAPP

SECTION 1.2

Description of the concentration

This notification concerns the acquisition of sole control by Facebook of WhatsApp. Facebook provides social networking services. In addition, Facebook is active in the consumer communications sector through its Facebook Messenger app (a consumer communications application available for iOS, Android, Windows Phone, BlackBerry and Nokia Asha handsets), and the Messaging function on its webpage, which provide mobile consumer communications functionality for Facebook users.

WhatsApp offers a mobile application that enables one-to-one and group real-time consumer communications on handsets running the iOS, Android, BlackBerry and Blackberry 10, Windows Phone, and selected Nokia Series 40 (including Asha) and 60 (including Symbian) handsets. Users can send text, photo, video and voice messages, and will soon be able to make VoIP calls to each other.