

***Case No COMP/M.5824
– BC Partners/ Spotless***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 14/04/2010

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 14.4.2010
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PUBLIC VERSION

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

To the notifying party:

Dear Madam(s) and/or Sir(s),

**Subject: Case No COMP/M.5824 – BC Partners/ Spotless
Notification of 15.03.2010 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No
139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 74, 24.03.2010,
p. 16**

1. On 15.03.2010, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking CIE Management II Limited ('CIEM', Guernsey), general partner and manager of BC European Capital VIII ('BC', Guernsey), ultimately owned by BC Partners Holdings Limited ('BC Partners', Guernsey) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the Spotless Group SAS ('Spotless', France) by way of purchase of shares.

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p 1 (the "Merger Regulation"). With effect from 1 December 2009, Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty have become Articles 101 and, 102, respectively, of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ("TFEU"). The two sets of provisions are, in substance, identical. For the purposes of this Decision, references to Articles 101 and 102 of the TFEU should be understood as references to Articles 81 and 82, respectively, of the EC Treaty where appropriate. The TFEU also introduced certain changes in terminology, 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. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for BC Partners: private equity company, manager and general partner of BC Funds. The firm operates as an integrated team through offices in Europe and North America to acquire and develop businesses and create value in partnership with management,
 - for BC: private equity fund,
 - for Spotless: manufacturer of laundry care products, household care products, shoes care products, glass lens cleaners and plant & pet care products.
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(b) 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 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.

For the Commission
(*signed*)
Alexander ITALIANER
Director General

² OJ C 56, 05.3.2005, p. 32 ("Notice on a simplified procedure").