

***Case No COMP/M.2727 -  
POST OFFICE  
LIMITED / FIRST RATE  
ENTERPRISES  
LIMITED / JV***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

**REGULATION (EEC) No 4064/89  
MERGER PROCEDURE**

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Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION  
Date: 02/05/2002

*Also available in the CELEX database  
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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 02/05/2002

SG (2002) D/229652

PUBLIC VERSION

MERGER PROCEDURE  
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

**To the Notifying Parties**

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

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.2727 – The Port Office/First Rate Enterprises Ltd/JV  
Notification of 03/04/2002 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC)  
No. 4064/89<sup>1</sup>  
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities No. C 89,  
13/04/2002, page 4.**

1. On 03/04/2002, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 4064/89 by which the undertakings Post Office Limited (“POL”), controlled by Consignia plc, and First Rate Enterprises Limited (“FRE”), controlled by the Bank of Ireland, acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking FRTS by purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are :
  - for POL : postal and financial services,
  - for FRE : wholesaling and trading in foreign currencies,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 395, 30.12.1989 p. 1; corrected version OJ L 257 of 21.9.1990, p. 13, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97, OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1, corrigendum in OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

- for FRTS : wholesale of and foreign currency exchange, supply of traveller's cheques and car hire services.
3. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 4064/89 and of paragraph 4, subparagraph (c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89<sup>2</sup>.
  4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the common market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 4064/89.

For the Commission

Mario MONTI  
Member of the Commission

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<sup>2</sup> OJ C 217, 29.07.2000, p. 32.