

***Case No COMP/M.3055 -
RAUTAKIRJA /
HACHETTE
DISTRIBUTION
SERVICES / JV***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 29/01/2003

*Also available in the CELEX database
Document No 303M3055*



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 29.01.2003

SG (2003) D/228302

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying parties

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

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.3055 – Rautakirja/Hachette Distribution Services/JV
Notification of 16/12/2002 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC)
No. 4064/89¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities No. C 324,
24/12/2002.**

1. On 16.12.2002, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 by which the undertaking Rautakirja, Finland, acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking HDS Retail Czech Republic (HDS Retail), by way of purchase of shares. HDS Retail is currently wholly owned and controlled by Hachette Distribution Services S.A. (HDS), France.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for Rautakirja: distribution of newspapers and magazines and operation of newsstands, bookstores, cinemas and restaurants;

¹ 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 HDS: wholesale distribution and retailing of newspapers, magazines and books; the distribution and sale of records, videos and multimedia products; operation of retail stores in travel outlets.
 - for HDS Retail: the operation of retail stores in transportation centres and newspaper kiosks in Czech Republic.
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 (a) of the Commission Notice on simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89².
 4. For the reasons set out in this Notice 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

² OJ C 217, 29.07.2000, p. 32.