

***Case No COMP/M.3319 -
DOUGHTY HANSON /
SAFT***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 12/12/2003

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

Brussels, 12/12/2003

SG (2003) D/233435

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.3319 - Doughty Hanson/SAFT
Notification of 14.11.2003 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC)
No. 4064/89¹, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97²
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 281,
22.11.2003.**

1. On 14.11.2003, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97, by which the undertaking Doughty Hanson & Co limited (“DHC”, UK) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking SAFT, belonging to the French Alcatel group, by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are :
 - for undertaking DHC: private equity fund manager
 - for undertaking SAFT: design, development, manufacture, marketing, sale and distribution of industrial batteries, portable batteries and speciality batteries.

¹ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989 p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

² OJ L 180, 9. 7. 1997, p. 1; corrigendum OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

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 b, of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89³.
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

³ OJ C 217, 29.07.2000, p. 32.