

***Case No COMP/M.3727 -  
3i / BERKENHOFF***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

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Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION  
Date: 23/03/2005

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 23-III-2005

SG-Greffe(2005) D/201471/2

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.3727 – 3i/Berkenhoff  
Notification of 16/02/2005 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC)  
No. 139/2004<sup>1</sup>  
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C-47,  
23/02/2005, page 11.**

1. On 16/02/2005, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the undertaking 3i Group plc (“3i”, UK) and Granville Private Equity Managers (Deutschland) Fund Limited Partnership and GBCP (D) II LP (together referred to as “GB-Funds”, Germany) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking Berkenhoff Management Holding GmbH (“Berkenhoff Holding”, Germany) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are :
  - for undertaking 3i : venture capital and private equity company

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004 p. 1

- for undertaking GB-Funds: private equity funds
  - for undertaking Berkenhoff Holding: active in development , production and distribution of fine wire solutions in non-ferrous alloys.
3. After examination of the notification, the Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004 and of paragraph 5(b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No139/2004.
  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 (EC) No. 139/2004.

For the Commission

signed  
Neelie Kroes  
Member of the Commission