

***Case No COMP/M.4530 -
3i GROUP / AZELIS***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 19/02/2007

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 19.02.2007

SG-Greffe(2007) D/200738

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.4530 – 3i Group/Azelis

Notification of 22.01.2007 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004¹

Publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities No. C 019, 27.01.2007, page 16.

1. On 22 January 2007, 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 Group", UK) acting indirectly through 3i Funds acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1) (b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Azelis S.A. ("Azelis", LUX) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for undertaking 3i Group: private equity and venture capital company
 - for undertaking Azelis: specialty chemicals distribution

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004 p. 1.

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, subparagraph c, 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 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,
Philip LOWE
Director General

² OJ C 56, 05.3.2005 p.32.