

***Case No COMP/M.4544 -
RANK / SIG***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 15/03/2007

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 15-03-2007

SG-Greffe(2007) D/201210

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.4544 - RANK/ SIG
Notification of 9/02/2007 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 37 of 21-02-2007, page 10.**

1. On 09/02/2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the undertaking Rank Group Holdings Limited ("Rank", New Zealand) controlled by Mr Graeme Hart acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking SIG Holding AG ("SIG", Switzerland) by way of public bid announced on 19.12.2006.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004 p. 1

- for Rank: investment company holding stakes in many sectors, including carton packaging via the US company Evergreen, the former beverage packaging solutions of International Paper;
 - for undertaking SIG: aseptic carton packaging solutions and plastic packaging solutions
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. 139/2004.
 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
Philip LOWE
Director General