

***Case No COMP/M.5044 -
BRIDGEPOINT / PRET
A MANGER***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 02/04/2008

***In electronic form on the EUR-Lex website under document
number 32008M5044***



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 02-IV-2008
SG-Greffe(2008) D/201488

PUBLIC VERSION

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

To the notifying party

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

**Subject: Case No. COMP/M.5044 – BRIDGEPOINT / PRET A MANGER
Notification of 22.02.2008 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No.
139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No. C 60 of 05 Mar
2008, p4.**

1. On 22.02.2008, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the undertaking Bridgepoint Capital Group Limited ("Bridgepoint", UK) through an acquisition vehicle acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Pret a Manger Holdings Limited ("Pret a Manger", UK) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for undertaking Bridgepoint : private equity company,
 - for undertaking Pret a Manger : food and drink retail through chain of sandwich shops in the UK.

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 b, 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