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***Case No COMP/M.7261 - GOLDMAN SACHS /
BLACKSTONE / IPREO***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 30/07/2014

***In electronic form on the EUR-Lex website under document
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 30.07.2014
C(2014) 5552 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER
PROCEDURE

To the notifying parties:

Dear Madam(s) and/or Sir(s),

**Subject: Case M.7261 - GOLDMAN SACHS / BLACKSTONE / IPREO
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No
139/2004¹**

1. On 27 June 2014 the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertakings Goldman Sachs Group, Inc ("Goldman Sachs" USA) and the Blackstone Group L.P. ("Blackstone" USA) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking Ipreo Holdings LLC ("Ipreo" USA) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - Goldman Sachs is a global investment banking, securities and investment management firm that provides a range of banking, securities and investment services.
 - Blackstone is a global alternative asset manager and provider of financial advisory services.
 - Ipreo provides world-wide, financial information products including deal execution software, information databases, investor prospecting and customer relationship

¹ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 ("the Merger Regulation"). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ("TFEU") has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of "Community" by "Union" and "common market" by "internal market". The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

management tools ("CRM"), as well as market intelligence and analytics, to financial institutions and corporations².

3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(a) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004³.
4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation.

For the Commission

(signed)

Alexander ITALIANER
Director General

² Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 213, 08.07.2014, p. 11.

³ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.