

***Case No COMP/M.7362 - HIG/ AVIAPARTNER***

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: 03/09/2014

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 3.9.2014  
C(2014) 6329 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER  
PROCEDURE

**To the notifying party:**

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

**Subject: Case M.7362 - HIG/ AVIAPARTNER  
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No  
139/2004<sup>1</sup>**

1. On 06/08/2014, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking H.I.G. European Capital Partners SAS ("H.I.G. SAS", France) belonging to H.I.G. Capital LLC ("H.I.G. Capital", USA) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the undertaking Aviapartner ("Aviapartner", Belgium) by way of purchase of shares.
  
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
  - for H.I.G. SAS: private equity investment firm focused on management buy-outs, recapitalizations of middle market companies and growth equity investments;
  - for Aviapartner: ground handling including ramp and passenger services, cargo handling and freight related handling services in Continental Europe.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

2. 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(b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.<sup>3</sup>
3. 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*

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<sup>2</sup> Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 270 19.08.2014, p.3.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.