



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Competition

***Case M.8045 - BOSKALIS
/ VOLKER WESSELS
OFFSHORE BUSINESS***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 16/06/2016

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 16.06.2016
C(2016) 3831 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER
PROCEDURE

To the notifying party

Dear Sirs,

**Subject: Case M.8045 – BOSKALIS / VOLKER WESSELS OFFSHORE BUSINESS
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC)
No 139/2004¹ and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area²**

1. On 20 May 2016, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking Royal Boskalis Westminster NV ('Boskalis', The Netherlands) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the undertakings Stemat Holding B.V. ('Stemat', The Netherlands), Volker Stevin International Holding B.V., ('VSI', The Netherlands) and VBMS Holding B.V. ('VBMS', The Netherlands), (together 'Volker Wessels Offshore business'), by way of purchase of shares.³
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for Boskalis: dredging, offshore installation, offshore transport, towage and salvage as well as inland infrastructure. Boskalis' services are primarily offered to the oil and gas sector, the wind energy sector, ports and to projects related to land reclamation and coastal protection,

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.

² OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 (the 'EEA Agreement').

³ Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 192, 31.5.2016, p. 5.

- for Volker Wessels Offshore business: rental and lease of commodity vessels, installation, maintenance and replacement services of subsea power cables and multipurpose cables, and offshore construction services. These services are predominantly provided to the offshore wind energy sector.
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(c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.⁴
 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 and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission

(signed)
Johannes LAITENBERGER
Director-General

⁴ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.