



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Competition

***Case M.8264 -
MICHELIN /
LIMAGRAIN / EXOTIC
SYSTEMS***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 28/11/2016

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 28.11.2016
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PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying parties:

**Subject: Case M.8264 - MICHELIN / LIMAGRAIN / EXOTIC SYSTEMS
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**

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. On 04 November 2016, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the Compagnie Générale des Etablissements Michelin ("CGEM", France), through its wholly-owned subsidiary Spika, and the Limagrain Group ("Limagrain", France), through its subsidiary Vilmorin & Cie, acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Exotic Systems (France) by way of purchase of shares.³
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - CGEM is the holding company of the Michelin Group. Michelin is a French group manufacturing tires for cars, vans, trucks, farm machinery, earthmovers, motorcycles, scooters, bicycles, aircraft, subway trains and tramways. Michelin is active in the tires manufacturing sector as well as in the tires distribution sector, through retail stores and online networks.
 - Limagrain is an international agro-industrial group, specialized in field seeds, vegetable seeds and cereal products. Vilmorin & Cie is controlled by Limagrain and responsible for undertaking research, breeding, production and sales of seeds to the professional sector.
 - Exotic Systems is a French firm of engineering consultants specializing in the design and manufacture of connected devices.

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 418, 12.11.2016, p.4.

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(b) 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.