

Disclaimer :

The Competition DG makes the information provided by the notifying parties in section 4 of Short Form CO available to the public in order to increase transparency. This information has been prepared by the notifying parties under their sole responsibility, and its content in no way prejudices the view the Commission may take of the planned operation. Nor can the Commission be held responsible for any incorrect or misleading information contained therein.

M. 11378 - SFH / EXISTING SHAREHOLDERS / ARGAL

SECTION 4

Description of the concentration

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- a. Smithfield Foods Holding Limited (SFH, United Kingdom), which is part of the Smithfield Group (headed by United States – based company Smithfield Foods, Inc.) and is ultimately controlled by Cayman Islands - based WH Group Limited (listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange); and
- b. Manusian Family, S.L. (Manusian, Spain), Guembox Inversiones, S.L. (Guembox, Spain), Mr. Jordi Xavier Cagigós Negre and Mr. Antonio Cordero (together with Manusian, Guembox and Mr. Cagigós, the Existing Shareholders), all shareholders of Argal Alimentación, S.A.
- c. Argal Alimentación, S.A, (Argal).

SFH and the Existing Shareholders acquire joint control of Argal within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and Article 3(4) of the Merger Regulation.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- a. SFH is a holding company part of the Smithfield Group, which is a food group active in the EU primarily in the following activities: (i) the production and sale of processed meat; and (ii) the production and sale of fresh meat.
- b. The Existing Shareholders are investors or investment vehicles with no commercial activity other than the management of Argal.
- c. Argal and its subsidiaries are mainly active in the production of processed meat products in Spain and France, and sells these throughout most of the EU. Argal also supplies fresh pork meat in Spain and Germany. Argal is also active in the marketing of chilled non-meat meals, savoury bread spreads and soups.