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**M.11159 - JD SPORTS / GROUPE COURIR**

**SECTION 1.2**

**Description of the concentration**

The Commission has received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- (a) JD Sports Fashion Plc ('JD Group', UK); and
- (b) Groupe Courir ('Courir', France).

JD Group will acquire sole control of Groupe Courir within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation. The concentration will be accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are as follows:

- (a) JD Group is a sports goods retailer focused on the retail sale of sport apparel, footwear and accessories/equipment. Worldwide, it operates under various retail fascia (both online and via over 3,300 physical bricks-and-mortar stores), has a limited wholesale business and operates a number of gyms. JD Group's retail fascia are active in the sports goods market, offering sport footwear, apparel and equipment. In the EEA, these activities are carried out under the following retail fascia: JD Sports, Size?, Cosmos Sport, Sneaker 10, Sports Factory, Chausport, 50 Style, Timberland,<sup>29</sup> Cheels,<sup>30</sup> Symbiosis, Umbro outlet,<sup>31</sup> Deporvillage, Aktiesport,<sup>32</sup> Perry Sport<sup>33</sup>, Sizeer, Sprinter, Footpatrol, Livestock,<sup>34</sup> and Sport Zone. In addition, JD Group owns some fascia which are focused on outdoor adventure products, all of which exclusively operate in the UK.
- (b) (Groupe Courir is engaged in the retail sale of sports apparel, footwear, and clothing accessories. In the EEA, it carries on its retail activities under two fascia: Courir and Naked Copenhagen.