



EC sees more mergers require Phase II and remedies - St Gallen ICF

27 April 2017 | 11:24 BST

The European Commission (EC) is seeing a trend of more mergers going for an in-depth scrutiny and remedies, the competition directorate's Director General said today (27 April).

"We can see a clear trend that more cases, often transactions in already highly concentrated markets, require in-depth scrutiny and complex and far reaching remedies before approval," Johannes Laitenberger, Director General at DG Competition, told the St Gallen International Competition Law Forum (ICF).

The senior official stressed that the Brussels authority's merger review is not limited to the potential effect on prices, but also on their impact on innovation. In this respect he mentioned the recent review of *Dow/Dupont*, as well as *GE/Alstom* and *GSK/Novartis*.

In 2016 eight deals saw a phase II in-depth probe, according to *PaRR* statistics.

However, "the vast majority of mergers we review is unproblematic", Laitenberger noted. In 2016, the EC received over 360 merger notifications, with as many as 250 going through simplified procedures, he revealed. Only one merger was prohibited in that year.

In 2016 the EC vetoed Hutchison's proposed tie-up with O2 in the UK. The EC also recently blocked the proposed mergers of *LSE/Deutsche Boerse* and *HeidelbergCement/Schwenk*.

by Simon Van Dorpe in St. Gallen



Sector: Industrials
Topics: Merger Review

Grade: Confirmed

Companies

GlaxoSmithKline Plc
London Stock Exchange (LSE) Plc
Syngenta AG
Lawyer
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
Baer & Karrer
Financial Advisor
Goldman Sachs
JPMorgan
UBS Investment Bank
Dyal Co
Novartis AG
Deutsche Boerse AG
HeidelbergCement AG
China National Chemical Corporation
Lawyer
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Homburger
Financial Advisor
HSBC
China CITIC Bank Corporation Ltd.
Agent
Credit Suisse
The Dow Chemical Company
Financial Advisor
Lazard
Morgan Stanley
Klein & Coll
Lawyer
Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP
General Electric Company
Monsanto Company
Lawyer
Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley
Ducera Partners
E. I. Du Pont De Nemours And Company
Financial Advisor
Evercore Partners Inc
Goldman Sachs
Lawyer
Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP
Bayer AG
Financial Advisor
Bank Of America Merrill Lynch
Credit Suisse Group AG
Rothschild
Lawyer
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
Debt Provider
Goldman Sachs
Credit Suisse Group AG
HSBC Holdings Plc
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Bank Of America Merrill Lynch
Alstom SA
Third Point LLC
CK Hutchison Holdings
DowDuPont Agriculture Spin Off Company
DowDuPont Material Science Spin Off Company
DowDuPont Specialty Products Spin Off Company

Agencies

European Commission - Directorate General
For Competition (EC - DG Comp)
US Department Of Justice (DoJ)
European Commission

M&A

London Stock Exchange (LSE) Plc / Deutsche
Boerse AG
The Dow Chemical Company / E. I. Du Pont De
Nemours And Company
Syngenta AG / China National Chemical
Corporation
London Stock Exchange (LSE) Plc / Deutsche
Boerse AG
Monsanto Company / Bayer AG

© 2017 MERGERMARKET GROUP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

To be used for the internal business of the assigned users only. Sharing, distributing or forwarding the entirety or any part of this article in any form to anyone that does not have access under your agreement is strictly prohibited and doing so violates your contract and is considered a breach of copyright. Any unauthorised recipient or distributor of this article is liable to Mergermarket for unauthorised use and copyright breach.