

The Belgian Competition Authority approves the acquisition of Renault Retail Group Belgium by the Emil Frey Group

On 17 August 2022, the Belgian Competition Authority (BCA) approved the acquisition of Renault Retail Group Belgium by the Emil Frey Group.

The merger was notified on 2 August 2022. The application of the simplified procedure was requested.

This transaction is linked to and conditional upon the acquisition by the Emil Frey Group of the company Valanfort and the business of Valckenier Zaventem, both belonging to the Valckenier Group.

The Emil Frey Group, 99.99% owned by the holding company Emil Frey AG, is active in Belgium in the retail trade of new and used cars of the brands VW, Audi, Skoda, Seat, Ssangyong, Dacia and Renault. The Emil Frey Group also offers maintenance and repair services, bodywork and distribution of spare parts for VW, Audi, Skoda, Seat, Ssangyong, Dacia and Renault. The Emil Frey Group currently operates six Renault-branded dealerships in Belgium, located respectively in Liège (Neri Liège and Néri Grivegnée), Fléron (Neri Fléron, Neri Retinne), Petit Rechain (Emocar Verviers) and Visé (Ecomar Visé).

Renault Retail Group Belgium is active on the Belgian market, as well as on the Luxembourg market via its 100% owned subsidiary Renault Retail Group Luxembourg. It operates three car dealerships in Drogenbos, Schaerbeek (Meiser) and Ixelles (Plaine). Renault Retail Group Belgium retails passenger cars and light commercial vehicles of the Renault and Dacia brands and offers maintenance and repair services, bodywork and the distribution of spare parts for these same brands.

Valckenier Zaventem is a dealership for the Renault and Dacia brands, while SA Valanfort is a dealership for the Alpine brand.

In its decision of 17 August 2022, the BCA finds that the conditions for the application of the simplified procedure are met and that the notified concentration does not give rise to any objections.

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The Belgian Competition Authority (BCA) is an independent administrative authority that contributes to the definition and implementation of competition policy in Belgium. Concretely, the BCA pursues anti-competitive practices, such as cartels and abuses of a dominant position, and reviews the main merger operations. The BCA cooperates with the other competition authorities of the member states of the European Union and the European Commission within the European Competition Network (ECN)