

PRESS RELEASE

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Belgian Competition Authority approves the acquisition of the automotive business of Automotive Investments by Van Mossel Dealer Holding Belux

On 4 March 2024, the Belgian Competition Authority (BCA) approved the acquisition of the automotive business of Automotive Investments by Van Mossel Dealer Holding Belux.

The concentration was notified on 16 February 2024 and the application of the simplified procedure was requested.

Van Mossel Dealer Holding Belux is a company affiliated to Van Mossel Automotive Group Belux. The group to which the buyer belongs is active in Belgium in the sale of passenger cars and light commercial vehicles and distributes the following brands in a number of territories: Peugeot, Citroën, DS, Opel, Alfa Romeo, Fiat, Abarth, Jeep, Nissan, Kia, Mercedes-Benz, Mercedes-Trucks, Volvo, Polestar, Jaguar, Land Rover, Ford, Hyundai, Maxus, Suzuki, Isuzu, MG, Volvo, Renault and Dacia. In addition, Van Mossel Automotive Group Belux also exercises operational leasing activities. Finally, the group is active in the sale of used cars and in the body repair works.

Automotive Business holds 100% of the shares in Mertens Sint-Niklaas, Mertens Lokeren and Mertens Dendermonde. Mertens Sint-Niklaas holds 80% of the shares in Autoschade Raf. Mertens Sint-Niklaas, Mertens Lokeren and Mertens Dendermonde are operating companies active in the sale, repair and maintenance of (new and used) passenger cars and LCVs of the Volkswagen, Audi, Seat/Cupra and Skoda brands. Autoschade Raf is active in the (bodywork) repair and maintenance of (new and used) passenger cars and LCVs and is located in Sint-Niklaas.

By acquiring full control, Van Mossel aims to expand its portfolio with the Volkswagen, Audi, Seat/Cupra and Skoda brands and further expand its presence in Belgium, and more specifically East Flanders.

In its decision of 4 March 2024, the BCA found that the conditions for the application of the simplified procedure were met and that the notified concentration did not raise 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)