

PRESS RELEASE

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The Belgian Competition Authority approves the acquisition of the Van den Broeck company by the Pautric group

The Belgian Competition Authority ("BCA") approved on the 29 March 2024 the concentration by which the Pautric group, through its subsidiary Pautric Invest, acquires sole control of the Van den Broeck company.

The parties are active in the automotive distribution and related services sector.

The project was notified on 20 March 2024 and the application of the simplified procedure was requested.

The Pautric group operates car dealerships in the provinces of West Flanders, Flemish Brabant and the Brussels-Capital Region. It retails new and used BMW and MINI passenger cars and provides related after-sales services. The Pautric group also distributes spare parts over the counter for the vehicles of the brands it distributes and provides bodywork repair services.

The Van den Broeck company operates car dealerships in the provinces of Flemish Brabant. It retails new and used BMW cars and provides related after-sales services. The Van den Broeck company offers maintenance and repair services and sells spare parts over the counter for vehicles of the brand BMW.

The parties' activities overlap on the markets for the sale of new and used passenger cars and light commercial vehicles, maintenance and repair services for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles, and the distribution of spare parts for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles.

In its decision of 29 March 2024, the BCA found that the conditions for applying the simplified procedure had been met and that the notified concentration did not give rise to any objections.

For further information, please contact:

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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)