

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **The Belgian Competition Authority approves the acquisition of six shops of Delhaize Le Lion/De Leeuw by VLH Holding.**

On 16 May 2024, the Belgian Competition Authority ('BCA') approved the acquisition of sole control of six shops of Delhaize Le Lion/De Leeuw NV by VLH Holding BV.

On 22 April 2024, the Auditor General of the Belgian Competition Authority received a notification of a concentration within the meaning of Article IV.10, §1 of the Economic Law Code. Herein it was notified that VLH Holding BV intends to acquire control over six shops of Delhaize Le Lion/De Leeuw located at the following locations: Fruithof in Antwerp, Houthalen, Genk Waterschei, Diest, Hasselt and Sint-Truiden.

VLH Holding BV is a holding company under which several companies operate AD Delhaize shops in Belgium.

Delhaize Le Lion/De Leeuw NV is active in the retail sale of food and other daily consumer goods in Belgium and Luxembourg.

In its decision of 16 May 2024, the BCA found that the conditions for applying the simplified procedure were met, that effective competition would not be significantly impeded on the relevant markets and that the notified concentration did 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)