

The Belgian Competition Authority approves the acquisition of AB Lens Motor by the Emil Frey group

On 31 January 2025, the Belgian Competition Authority (“BCA”) approved the acquisition of sole control of AB Lens Motor by the Emil Frey group.

The concentration was notified on 23 January 2025 and the application of the simplified procedure was requested.

The Emil Frey group is active in Belgium as a retailer of new and used passenger cars and light commercial vehicles (“LCVs”) of the Volkswagen, Alpine, Audi, Skoda, Seat, KGM (formerly Ssangyong), Dacia, Cupra and Renault brands. It also distributes spare parts for these brands, and offers maintenance, repair and bodywork services for these brands as well as the Porsche brand. It operates mainly in the provinces of Liège and Luxembourg and in Brussels.

AB Lens Motor is active in Belgium on the markets for the retail sale of new and used Renault Trucks and Fiat Professional trucks and LCVs; the retail sale of JCB brand building and civil engineering equipment; maintenance and repair services for LCVs, trucks, building and civil engineering equipment and Lohr car carrier trailers; bodywork services for LCVs, trucks and building and civil engineering equipment; as well as on the market for the distribution of spare parts for the aforementioned brands. AB Lens Motor operates four dealerships in Bierset, Eupen, Hotton and Fleurus.

The parties' activities overlap on (i) the sale of new and used light commercial vehicles, (ii) the distribution of spare parts for light commercial vehicles, (iii) the repair and maintenance services for light commercial vehicles, and (iv) the bodywork services for light commercial vehicles in the provinces of Liège and Luxembourg.

In its decision of 31 January 2025, the BCA finds that the conditions for the application of the simplified procedure were met and that the notified concentration does not raise objections in view of the limited nature of overlaps observed and the existing residual competition.

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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)