

PRESS RELEASE

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The Belgian Competition Authority approves the merger of the reinforcing steel activities of Südwest Beteiligungen and Van Merksteijn Steel Group

On 24 March 2025, the Belgian Competition Authority (BCA) approved the merger of the reinforcing steel activities of Südwest Beteiligungen and Van Merksteijn Steel Group into a new to be established company.

The concentration was notified on 17 March 2025, and the application of the simplified procedure was requested.

Südwest Beteiligungen is a vertically integrated company active in reinforcement steel products. More specifically, its activities focus on (i) the production of billets, (ii) the production and sale of wire rod, and (iii) the production and sale of reinforcement steel products, consisting of rebars, coils and mesh wire rods. The production facilities of Südwest Beteiligungen are located in Germany.

Van Merksteijn Steel Group is active in the production and sale of reinforcement steel products through 'Van Merksteijn International' and 'Intersig', with production facilities in Belgium, France, and the Netherlands.

In its decision of 24 March 2025, the BCA found that the conditions for the application of the simplified procedure are 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)