



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT 15 NOVEMBER 2011

Competition Authority clears proposed acquisition by Graphite of Harbourmaster

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed acquisition by Graphite Holdings LLC of the entire issued capital of Harbourmaster Capital (Holdings) Limited. The parties notified the transaction under the Competition Act 2002 on 20 October 2011.

There is only a limited overlap in the activities of the parties in the State. The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State. The Authority will publish a public version of its determination on its website (www.tca.ie) no later than 13 January 2012 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

Notes

Graphite is a newly formed and wholly-owned subsidiary of the Blackstone Group L.P. (Blackstone). Blackstone is a global asset manager and provider of financial advisory services.

Within Blackstone, GSO Capital Partners LP specialises in collateralised loan obligation vehicles and credit-oriented funds, which include leveraged loans, mezzanine, and rescue financing credit strategies. GSO Capital Partners LP is active within Ireland through its wholly-owned subsidiary GSO Capital Partners International LLP.

Harbourmaster Capital (Holdings) Limited is involved in asset management focusing on European senior secured loans, and in particular collateralised loan obligation vehicles. Harbourmaster Capital Management Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Harbourmaster Capital (Holdings) Limited operates within Ireland.

For further information contact:

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