



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**27 OCTOBER 2009**

### **Competition Authority Clears Acquisition of Certain Subsidiaries of Veris plc**

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Aramark Corporation ("Aramark") would acquire sole control of certain wholly-owned subsidiaries of Veris plc including Irish Estates (Management) Ltd, Vector Workplace and Facility Management Ltd, and Premier Management Company (Dublin) Limited (the "Target Companies"). The Competition Authority came to its decision after completing its review of the transaction, which was notified under the Competition Act 2002 by the parties on 1 October 2009.

Both Aramark and the Target Companies are active in the provision of facility management ("FM") services in the State. FM services comprise a range of services which can, broadly, be divided into two categories: (i) "soft" FM services such as cleaning, catering and security services, and (ii) "hard" FM services such as technical support and helpdesk services. In the State, Aramark is primarily active in the provision of "soft" FM services and food services while the Target Companies are primarily active in the provision of "hard" FM services.

The Competition Authority has formed the view that the proposed acquisition does not raise competition concerns in the State. The companies have been informed of the decision that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State. The proposed transaction may now proceed. A public version of the full text of the reasons for the Authority's decision will be published on the Authority's website ([www.tca.ie](http://www.tca.ie)) by no later than 24 December 2009 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information be removed from the published version.

#### **NOTES TO THE EDITOR**

Under Part 3 of the Competition Act 2002, certain mergers or acquisitions in the State that satisfy certain financial thresholds and other conditions must be notified to the Competition Authority and may not be put into effect during a prescribed waiting period. The Authority may clear or prohibit the proposed transaction.

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