

## MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT 7 SEPTEMBER 2010

## Competition Authority Clears the Acquisition by Compass Group of VSG Group

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Compass Group UK and Ireland Limited ("Compass") would acquire sole control of VSG Group Limited ("VSG"). The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 26 August 2010.

Compass is a private limited company incorporated in the UK, involved in contract food services and a range of support services including cleaning, caretaker and handling services, buildings operation and maintenance, reception and other office services, security, grounds maintenance and related project management.

VSG is a private limited company incorporated in the UK, operating in the UK and in Ireland. Within both the UK and the State, VSG is involved in the provision of security services including manned security, electronic security and remote monitoring systems.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction does not raise any 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 Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website (www.tca.ie) no later than 5 November 2010 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.