# MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT          31 JULY 2012

## Competition Authority clears the acquisition of joint control of Arkadin Holding

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed acquisition whereby AXA Investment Managers Private Equity Europe, a wholly-owned subsidiary of AXA SA, and Mr. Olivier de Puymorin would acquire joint control of Arkadin Holding SAS.  The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 2 July 2012.

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 30 September 2012 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

### Notes

AXA SA is active worldwide in property-casualty insurance (including insurance of personal property and liability), life & savings insurance, and asset management insurance (which involves investing and managing assets for AXA's insurance companies and their clients, as well as for third parties).

AXA Investment Managers Private Equity Europe is a private equity firm that specialises in the management of funds investing in private companies in Europe, North America, and Asia.

Mr Olivier de Puymorin is the founder and CEO of Arkadin.  Mr. de Puymorin has minority shares in other companies but does not have control or joint control of any of these companies.  None of these companies are engaged in insurance activities or in the provision of global collaboration services.

Arkadin Holding SAS is a global collaboration services provider offering a range of services including: collaborative solutions (eg, web and video conferencing); events (eg, virtual seminars, corporate communications, education programs through audio); and, unified communications (eg, collaboration services integrated in an audio and web suite).

**For further information contact:**

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