



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT 25 APRIL 2013

Competition Authority Clears Acquisition by BT of ESPN Global

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed acquisition by BT of ESPN Global Limited. The transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002 on 27 February 2013.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not lead to 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.

As with all media mergers, the parties may only proceed with this merger if the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation does not direct the Authority to carry out a full (phase 2) investigation within 10 days of the date of the Authority's decision. The Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website (www.tca.ie) no later than 24 June 2013 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

Notes

BT is the principal trading company of the BT Group of companies and is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of BT Group. BT Group is one of the world's largest communications services companies and is involved globally in the provision of fixed-line services, broadband, mobile, networked IT services and TV products and services. Within the State BT Group provides network IT services to government and major business and wholesale network services, by supplying telecoms products and services to communications providers.

ESPN Global is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of ESPN Inc. ESPN Inc is a multimedia sports entertainment company, with operations across 190 territories in publishing, radio, cable and non-broadcast television, online and event management. ESPN Inc also syndicates sports programming material to agencies and channel operators worldwide. In the UK and the State, ESPN Inc brings sports to approximately 3.5 million households through the ESPN and ESPN America sports channels.

For further information contact:

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