

Determination No. M/04/035 of the Competition Authority, dated 2^{nd} July 2004, under Section 21 of the Competition Act, 2002

Notification No. M/04/035 – Proposed acquisition by Gilde Participaties BV of Axxicon Mould Technology BV

Introduction

 On 14th June 2004 the Competition Authority, in accordance with Section 18 (1) of the Competition Act, 2002 ("the Act") was notified, on a mandatory basis, of a proposal whereby Gilde Participaties BV ("Gilde") would acquire – through a holding company - 72.5% of Axxicon Mould Technology BV ("Axxicon"), the remaining 27.5% of which would be held by the current management of Axxicon.

The Parties

- 2. Gilde is an investment management company which is 95% owned by Rabobank Nederland. The latter carries on business in Ireland through, *inter alia*, its ownership of ACC Bank. Gilde itself does not carry on business in Ireland.
- Axxicon is a world leader in industrial engineered mould solutions. These include standardised moulds, such as those for the production of plastic products, and customer specified moulds, which are customised moulds meeting a customer's unique demands. Axxicon had a turnover in Ireland of €[0 - 1m] for its most recent financial year.

Analysis

4. There is no competitive overlap in the activities of the parties in the State or elsewhere and therefore the transaction does not give rise to competition concerns.



Determination

The Competition Authority, in accordance with Section 21(2) of the Competition Act, 2002, has determined that, in its opinion, the result of the proposed acquisition by Gilde Participaties BV of Axxicon Mould Technology BV will not be to substantially lessen competition in markets for goods and services in the State and, accordingly, that the acquisition may be put into effect.

For the Competition Authority

Edward Henneberry Member of the Competition Authority

2nd July 2004