

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT

12 JANUARY 2010

Competition Authority Clears Acquisition of Certain Subsidiaries of Mourant by State Street Corporation

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby State Street Corporation ("State Street") would acquire the entire issued share capital of certain subsidiaries of Mourant Limited ("Mourant"). The Competition Authority came to its decision after completing its review of the transaction, which was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 14 December 2009.

State Street, a publicly traded company quoted on the New York Stock Exchange, is a global provider of investment servicing, investment management, investment research and trading services to institutional investors. State Street is incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, USA.

Mourant is a global provider of financial administration services. In the State Mourant is active only in the provision of corporate administration services for Irish vehicles and trust structures. The subsidiaries of Mourant to be acquired include: Mourant & Co. Limited, MIFA Services Limited, Mourant Services Guernsey Limited, Mourant Capital Markets Services Limited, Mourant Client Treasury Services Limited, Mourant Holdings Limited, Colomberie Services Limited and Mourant Fund Services LLC, and their subsidiaries. Certain direct and indirect subsidiaries of Mourant Holdings Limited and Mourant & Co. Limited will be retained by Mourant.

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) no later than 11 March 2010 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information be removed from the published version.

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