

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT 29 NOVEMBER 2013

Competition Authority Clears Acquisition of R Griggs Group by Permira

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed acquisition of indirect sole control of R Griggs Group Limited by Permira Holdings Limited. The transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002 on 6 November 2013.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not substantially lessen competition in any market for goods or services in the State. The companies have been informed of the decision. The Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website (www.tca.ie) no later than 28 January 2014 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

Notes

Permira Holdings Limited is a European private equity firm, founded in 1985, and operating out of Frankfurt, London, Milan and Paris. Permira Holdings Limited's global portfolio includes controlling interests in over 20 companies in various sectors including clothing and fashion, financial services, healthcare, chemicals, travel services and technology media and telecommunications. In the State, Permira is active, through a number of its portfolio companies including New Look and Hugo Boss.

New Look is active in the high street segment of the clothing retail market and has 25 stores in the State. Hugo Boss is active internationally in the design, production, wholesaling and retail distribution of clothing, accessories and footwear for men and women.

R Griggs Group Limited is a UK based company active in the design, development, procurement, marketing, selling and distribution of footwear, clothing and accessories under the "Dr. Martens" brand.