



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT

16 JUNE 2010

Competition Authority clears the acquisition by Metropolis International Group Limited of sole control of Medical Publications (Ireland) Limited

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed transaction whereby Metropolis International Group Limited ("Metropolis") would acquire sole control of Medical Publications (Ireland) Limited ("MPIL") from Reed Business Information Limited. The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 28 May 2010.

Metropolis is an international media group that specialises in the publication of, amongst other things, newspaper and magazines targeting mainly the U.K. consumer, business and travel sectors. Metropolis is also active in the building, publication and hosting of websites, the organisation of awards, events and reward and benefit programmes for consumers and corporate partners. Metropolis sells a number of its titles in certain newsagents in the State, namely: *Countryman's Weekly*, *Family History Monthly*, *Record Collector* and *Kindred Spirit*. Almost all of its other titles are available to Irish based customers on a subscription basis.

The Target Company, MPIL, publishes two magazine titles: *Irish Medical Times* and *MIMS Ireland* (Monthly Index of Medical Specialities Ireland). Both titles are available free of charge to registered doctors practising in the State and to all others on a subscription basis.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed acquisition does not raise 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 Enterprise, Trade and Innovation does not direct the Authority to carry out a full 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 15 August 2010 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

For further information contact:

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