



MERGER NOTICE NO 18: 2016

THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF 100% OF THE ISSUED SHARES IN AND CLAIMS ON LOAN ACCOUNT AGAINST BRANDCORP HOLDINGS (PTY) LTD BY BIDVEST GROUP LTD

Pursuant to section 56(1) of the Competition Act [CAP 46:09], the Competition Authority has received a merger notification for the proposed acquisition of 100% of the issued shares in and claims on loan account against Brandcorp Holdings (Pty) Ltd by Bidvest Group Ltd.

Bidvest Group is listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and is active in the Botswana market through the following eight (8) entities, which are all incorporated in Botswana: *Bidvest Car Rental Botswana (Pty) Ltd* - operational in the car rental business; (1) *BMS (Pty) Ltd* – involved in the supply of business machines, stationary and offers business centre services e.g. copying, printing and archiving. BMS holds the authorised dealership for Océ, Rowe, Unibind, Double A, EBA, Paper Pro, among others; (2) *Industro-Clean Botswana (Pty) Ltd* - sells cleaning chemicals, protective clothes and fire extinguishers; (4) *Macardo Lodge (Pty) Ltd* - operates within the consumer services sector focusing on hotels, resorts & cruise lines; (5) *Office Technique (Pty) Ltd* – mainly provides information technology product and services to Botswana government and corporate institutions; (6) *Rangecom (Pty) Ltd* - is in wholesale distribution of stationary, office furniture and equipment; (7) *Top Turf Botswana (Pty) Ltd* - operates within the retailing sector focusing on home improvement; and (8) *Rennies Foreign Exchange (Pty) Ltd* - provides foreign exchange, cash and globalised world currency card services.

Brandcorp Holdings (Pty) Ltd ("Brandcorp") is a private company incorporated in accordance to the Laws of the Republic of South Africa. It is owned by Ethos Private Equity Fund V, Management Trust, the Empowerment Trust and Sphere. Brandcorp supplies and distributes branded and niche consumer and industrial products through its two broad divisions; the industrial division and consumer division. The industrial division comprises the following: *Matus (tools & hardware)* – a wholesaler and distributor of hand tools and hardware, power tools, garden tools, cutting tools, compressors, air tools, welders and welding accessories, locks, adhesives and abrasives. In addition, Matus distributes non-branded consumables such as earplugs and certain types of gloves; *Burncrete* – a wholesaler of a comprehensive range of high quality hoisting and lifting equipment and consumables to a broad range of resellers who in turn service various engineering sectors that require hoisting and lifting equipment.

The consumer division comprises the following: *Leisure & Accessories/Interbrand* – a distributor of luggage, travel bags, backpacks, personal leather goods and handbags; *House & Home/MIC* – a wholesaler and distributor of houseware, kitchenware, tableware and catering products to retail market; Moto Quip & Leisure Quip – distributors of aftermarket vehicle accessories (not spare parts) as well as outdoor and camping related products. In Botswana, Brandcorp's activities include the wholesale and distribution of: electrical power tools; general tools and hardware; locks; fasteners and fittings; tape; table and kitchenware; personal protective clothing; and general lighting.

According to section 57(3), of the Competition Act, "any person, including a third party not a party to the proposed merger, may voluntarily submit to the inspector or the Authority any document, affidavit, statement or other relevant information in respect of a proposed merger". The Competition Authority therefore seeks any stakeholder views for or against the proposed merger, which may be sent within 10 days from date of this publication to the following address:

Director, Mergers and Monopolies
Competition Authority
Private Bag 00101
Plot 28, Matsitama Road, Main Mall
Gaborone
Tel: +267 3934278 Fax: +267 3121013
Email: CA@competitionauthority.co.bw