Notification Waiver Determination

Aldus - Hilton Manufacturing

Acquisition	Aldus Pty Ltd (**Aldus**) has applied for a notification waiver in respect of Aldus Manufacturing Pty Ltd's proposed acquisition of Hilton Manufacturing Pty Ltd (**Hilton**), as described in the transaction document provided as part of the application (the **Acquisition**).
Determination	The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has determined under section 51ABV(1)(a) of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) that the Acquisition is not required to be notified.
Date of determination	31 March 2026

Parties to the Acquisition	The Aldus Group primarily distributes digital printing and industrial coding equipment, manufactures and supplies industrial inks, decorative foils and thermal transfer ribbons, and provides label applicator systems and associated servicing. Aldus also operates a precision engineering division providing CNC machining services and a medical engineering division. Aldus Manufacturing Pty Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aldus, established for this transaction. The target, Hilton, is an Australian sheet metal fabrication business. Hilton manufactures engineered metal products and assemblies, such as bull bars and fuel tanks, for customers in the heavy vehicle and industrial sectors.
Explanation for determination	In making this notification waiver determination, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has considered the information provided with the notification waiver application and had regard to the factors in section 51ABV(2)(b) of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) (the **Act**). Based on the information provided in the application, the ACCC considers that the Acquisition is unlikely to give rise to any material lessening of competition. In particular, there is no horizontal overlap or vertical relationship between the parties. The ACCC has also had regard to the likelihood that, if the Acquisition were put into effect, the notification thresholds determined under section 51ABP(1) of the Act would apply. While the ACCC considers that the notification thresholds are likely to be met, given that material competition concerns are unlikely to arise, the ACCC has determined that the Acquisition is not required to be notified. The ACCC considers that the determination is consistent with the object of the Act and the interests of consumers in promoting competition.

	For more information about the ACCC's approach to considering notification waiver applications and to assessing competition effects more generally, see the ACCC's interim guidance on notification waivers and merger assessment guidelines.

Determination made by Commissioner Williams pursuant to a delegation under section 25(1) of the Act