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**COMP/M.5423 - COSTA / MSC / MPCT**

**SECTION 1.2**

**Description of the concentration**

Costa Crociere S.p.A., MSC CROCIERE S.A. and Louis Plc have agreed to set up a joint-venture, that will operate through a newly incorporated company, Marseille Provence Cruise Terminal S.A.S. (MPCT). The purpose of the joint venture will be to manage a cruise terminal at the port of Marseille, pursuant to the terms of the concession granted by the Port Authority of Marseille on 11 September 2008.

The three cruise companies intend to invest in the development of Marseille's cruise terminal, so as to improve the existing facilities, and thus offer to passengers "state of the art" facilities.

MPCT will operate on the market for cruise terminals, performing the functions normally carried out by undertakings operating on such a market and providing in a neutral manner its services to all cruise operators wishing to use the Marseille cruise terminal.