



Notification Waiver Determination

Autosports Group – Solitaire Automotive Group

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| Acquisition | <p>Autosports Group Limited (ASG) applied for a notification waiver in respect of its proposed acquisition of 100% interests in the following Solitaire Automotive Group (Solitaire) entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cambridge Motors Pty Ltd, which is the entity used by David Smoker to hold the shares in Russleigh Pty Ltd (Russleigh) and units in the Russleigh Unit Trust;• Russleigh Pty Ltd, which is the trustee of the Russleigh Unit Trust, which operates the Solitaire Automotive Group business; and• the Russleigh Unit Trust, <p>as described in the transaction documents provided as part of the application (the Acquisition).</p> <p>The Acquisition consists of ASG acquiring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2,500 of 10,000 ordinary shares (i.e. 25%) in Russleigh and 64,820 of 259,295 units (i.e. 25%) in the Russleigh Unit Trust; and• 100% of the shares in Cambridge Motors (which in turn owns 7,500 of 10,000 ordinary shares in Russleigh (i.e. 75%)) and 194,475 of 259,295 units in the Russleigh Unit Trust (i.e. 75%). <p>The effect of the Acquisition will be that ASG will acquire 100% of the business which operates Solitaire Automotive Group's 12 motor vehicle dealerships, 2 used vehicle dealerships and 1 motorcycle dealership in Adelaide.</p> |
| Determination | <p>The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has determined under section 51ABV(1)(a) of the <i>Competition and Consumer Act 2010</i> (Cth) that the Acquisition is not required to be notified.</p> |
| Date of determination | <p>11 March 2026</p> |

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| Parties to the Acquisition | <p>The acquirer, ASG, operates a total of 81 motor vehicle dealerships, 4 used vehicle dealerships, 6 motorcycle dealerships and 8 motor vehicle collision repair facilities located in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Brisbane, Gold Coast and Auckland. The brands of vehicles sold across these dealerships include ALPINA, Aston Martin, Audi, Bentley, BMW, Geely, Kia, Lamborghini, Jaguar Land Rover, Maserati, McLaren, MercedesBenz, MINI, Polestar, Porsche, Rolls-Royce, Subaru, Volkswagen, Volvo and Zeekr.</p> <p>The target, Solitaire, operates 12 motor vehicle dealerships, 2 used vehicle dealerships and 1 motorcycle dealership located in Adelaide.</p> |
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| | <p>The brands of vehicles sold across these dealerships include Aston Martin, Audi, Cupra, Ducati, Jaguar Land Rover, Maserati, Polestar, Volkswagen, Volkswagen Commercial, Volvo and Zeekr.</p> |
| <p>Explanation for determination</p> | <p>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 certain publicly available information, and had regard to the factors in section 51ABV(2)(b) of the <i>Competition and Consumer Act 2010</i> (Cth) (the Act).</p> <p>Based on the information currently before it, the ACCC considers that the Acquisition is unlikely to give rise to any material lessening of competition. In particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. there is no horizontal overlap between ASG and Solitaire in the supply of new and used motor vehicles, car servicing and parts in South Australia b. the presence of alternative dealerships and dealership groups supplying new and used motor vehicles, car servicing and parts locally and nationally c. while ASG is one of the largest motor vehicle dealers in Australia, the increment to ASG’s share of supply arising from the Acquisition would be small <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The ACCC considers that the determination is consistent with the object of the Act and the interests of consumers in promoting competition.</p> <p>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.</p> |

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