

**RMIG LIMITED/ASH & LACY PERFORATORS LIMITED  
MERGER INQUIRY**

**Cancellation of merger reference**

The Competition Commission (CC) has cancelled the reference concerning the proposed acquisition by RMIG Limited (RMIG) of enterprises carried on by or under the control of Ash & Lacy Perforators Limited (a company wholly owned by Ash & Lacy Manufacturing Limited, which is a subsidiary of Hill & Smith Holdings Plc).

The reference was made to the CC on 26 August 2009 by the Office of Fair Trading under section 33 of the Enterprise Act 2002. The terms of reference required the CC to examine:

- (a) whether arrangements were in progress or in contemplation which, if carried into effect, would result in the creation of a relevant merger situation; and
- (b) if so, whether the creation of that situation may be expected to result in a substantial lessening of competition in any market or markets in the UK for goods and services, including the manufacture and supply of perforated metal in the UK.

The CC has received assurances from RMIG that its proposed acquisition of enterprises carried on by or under the control of Ash & Lacy Perforators Limited, Ash & Lacy Manufacturing Limited and/or Hill & Smith Holdings Plc has been abandoned, along with a copy of a letter from RMIG dated 3 September 2009 to Ash & Lacy Manufacturing Limited and Hill & Smith Holdings Plc advising that it will not be proceeding with the acquisition of Ash & Lacy Perforators Limited. The Chairman of the CC, Peter Freeman, having had regard to those assurances, is satisfied that RMIG and Ash & Lacy Perforators Limited have, within the terms of section 37(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002, abandoned the proposal to make arrangements of the kind mentioned in the reference. The Chairman has consequently cancelled the reference in accordance with his powers under Schedule 7 to the Competition Act 1998.

This cancellation is published in accordance with requirements laid down by sections 107(2)(a) and 107(4) of the Enterprise Act 2002.

8 September 2009