



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT - M/19/021

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission clears proposed acquisition by Gowan Group Limited of sole control of Opel Automobile Ireland Limited.

20 August 2019

On 20 August 2019, the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission cleared the proposed transaction, whereby Gowan Group Limited would acquire sole control of Opel Automobile Ireland Limited. The proposed transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002, as amended, on 11 July 2019.

The Commission has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not substantially lessen competition in any market for goods or services in the State. The Commission will publish the reasons for its determination on its website no later than 60 working days after the date of the determination and after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information be removed from the published version.

Additional Information

Gowan Group Limited was incorporated in Ireland in 1969 and is ultimately owned by Convest Limited. The group are involved in the wholesale distribution of Peugeot vehicles in Ireland and the retail sales of Peugeot, Honda, Kia and Opel vehicles. A related company Universal Motor Holdings Limited are involved in the wholesale distribution of Honda branded vehicles in Ireland.

Opel Automobile Ireland Limited is a private limited company incorporated in Ireland in 1978. It is the exclusive wholesale distributor of Opel motor vehicles, Opel branded original equipment and used Opel motor vehicles. Opel Automobile Ireland Limited is wholly owned and controlled by Opel Europe Holding S.L.U. and is part of the PSA Group which is the group that manufactures Peugeot, Citroen, Opel, DS and Vauxhall cars and motorcycles.