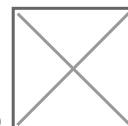


# 15 January 2010: A new Chief economist is appointed at the *Autorité de la concurrence*

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Thibaud Vergé has just been appointed Chief economist at the *Autorité de la concurrence*, as replacement for Philippe Choné.

Philippe Choné, who created the Autorité's economic service and directed it for 3 years, is joining the ENSAE (École Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Économique) as a professor of economics and in order to help this institution with the installation of the future Saclay campus. In view of his many remarkable contributions, the Autorité wishes him every success in this new venture.

PhD in economics, a graduate of the École Polytechnique and with a Masters degree in quantitative economics and econometrics, Thibaud Vergé was formerly, since 2005, a researcher at the industrial economics laboratory of the CREST (Centre de Recherche en Économie et Statistique - INSÉE, Paris), while teaching at the ENSAE, at the École Polytechnique and at HEC (École des Hautes Etudes Commerciales) in Lausanne (Switzerland). His research work in industrial economics focused on questions relating to competition policy and, in particular, the competitive impact of vertical restraints.

Heading the economic team of the Autorité, that consists of five economists, Thibaud Vergé will bring his assistance and expertise to the handling of cases under review, to the examination of merger operations and to any competition-related matter brought before the *Autorité* in its consultative capacity.

He will take up his position as of 1st February 2010 and will be assisted by Étienne Pfister, doctor and senior lecturer in economics and an economist at the *Autorité* since 2007, who is appointed as assistant to the Chief economist.