

# 15 November 2011: Plumbing, heating and cooling products

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## The *Autorité de la concurrence* will examine the takeover of Brossette by Saint-Gobain

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At the request of the companies, the European Commission has decided to refer the acquisition of sole control of **Brossette** by **Point.P**, a subsidiary of **Saint-Gobain**, to be examined by the *Autorité de la concurrence*.

Active in the distribution of plumbing, heating and cooling products, Brossette was so far owned by the British **Wolseley** group.

### The merging companies decided to request a referral

Pursuant to European regulations, the submitting parties requested a referral of the case to the *Autorité de la concurrence*.

They have mentioned in their submission to the European Commission that the geographic focus of the proposed transaction is mainly on the French territory, since Brossette is only active in France and, as a consequence, that the case had to be reviewed by the French competition authority.

In its decision issued on 10 November, the European Commission confirmed that the French competition authority was best placed to examine the transaction and decided to refer the case to the former.

Saint-Gobain has now to formally notify the *Autorité de la concurrence* of its

proposed acquisition of Brossette.

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