

- g) a description of the expected effects of the mergers on consumers and technical progress.

In addition, this information must be accompanied by the most recent annual accounts of all the parties, final or most recent drafts of the merger document, any other reports or studies prepared for the purpose of the merger. The financial information must be expressed in ECU. Twenty copies of the Form and 15 copies of all supporting documents must be provided.

Under the merger control regulation, the Commission and officials of Member States are bound by professional secrecy rules whereby information received may only be used for the purpose of the particular proceeding. When publishing the fact of notification, publication must respect the legitimate interest of the parties in the protection of their business secrets.