

ANALYSIS TO AID PUBLIC COMMENT

In the Matter of Cytec Industries Inc., File No. 0410203

The Federal Trade Commission (“Commission”) has accepted, subject to final approval, an Agreement Containing Consent Orders (“Consent Agreement”) from Cytec Industries Inc. (“Cytec”). The Consent Agreement is intended to resolve anticompetitive effects stemming from Cytec’s proposed acquisition of the Surface Specialties Business of UCB S.A. (“UCB”). The Consent Agreement includes a proposed Decision and Order (“Order”) that would require Cytec to divest UCB assets relating to the research, development, marketing, sale, and production of amino resins (“UCB Amino Resins Business”). The Consent Agreement also includes an Order to Hold Separate and Maintain Assets, which requires Cytec to preserve the UCB Amino Resins Business as a viable, competitive, and ongoing operation until the divestiture is achieved.

The proposed complaint alleges that the markets for amino resins for industrial liquid coatings and adhesion promotion in rubber are highly concentrated, that Cytec and UCB have been for many years the two major competitors in these markets, and that these companies compete with one another across a wide range of amino resin grades and applications in which customers have qualified their resins for use. As the proposed complaint describes, customers have relied on the competition between these companies to maintain competitive amino resin prices. The proposed complaint alleges that the proposed acquisition of UCB's Surface Specialties division by Cytec would reduce competition by eliminating the direct competition that has existed between these two companies. The proposed complaint further alleges that entry into the relevant markets would not be timely, likely, or sufficient to deter or offset the acquisition's adverse competitive effects. Other firms would not in the foreseeable future be able to offer the range of grades that Cytec and UCB have developed over the years, nor would they be able to meet the requirements necessary to commercially qualify their resins for use in demanding customer applications.

II. The Consent Agreement

The proposed Order requires that Cytec divest the UCB Amino Resins Business to an acquirer approved by the Commission within one-hundred and eighty (180) days from the date upon which the Commission accepts the proposed Order for public comment. The divested business includes two manufacturing facilities, in Massachusetts and in Germany, where UCB manufactures amino resins, together with UCB's rights to obtain amino resins pursuant to a tolling agreement between UCB and Solutia Canada, Inc. The divested business also includes certain lines of additives that are the only other products that UCB manufactures at the plant in Germany. In connection with the divestiture, Cytec is required to divest to an acquirer the set of assets that comprise UCB's amino resins business. In addition to the manufacturing assets, for example, Cytec is required to divest the patents and other intellectual property that UCB has relied upon in its amino resins business, the sales and marketing materials, including customer information, that UCB has relied upon, and the other books and records of the business. Further, Cytec is required to assign the different contracts relating to the amino resins business, and to secure all consents necessary for the divestiture. Cytec is also required, until the divestiture is completed, to take the steps necessary to maintain the viability of the UCB Amino Resins Business. The acquirer of the divested assets would have the opportunity, without interference from Cytec, to interview and potentially hire key UCB personnel who have been involved in supporting all aspects of the company's amino resins business.

The proposed Order also provides that if Cytec does not complete its divestiture within the specified six-month period, the Commission may appoint a Divestiture Trustee to divest the UCB Amino Resins Business in a manner acceptable to the Commission. The proposed Order also provides for the Commission to appoint a Monitor Trustee to oversee Cytec's compliance with the terms of the proposed Order and the divestiture agreements that Cytec enters pursuant to the proposed Order.

The proposed Order to Hold Separate and Maintain Assets that is also included in the

