

**REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY
BRIGHTSOLID GROUP LIMITED OF FRIENDS REUNITED HOLDINGS LTD**

**Notice of provisional findings made under Rule 10.3 of the Competition
Commission Rules of Procedure**

1. On 2 November 2009, the Office of Fair Trading, in exercise of its duty under section 33(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act), referred to the Competition Commission (CC) the anticipated acquisition by Brightsolid Group Limited of Friends Reunited Holdings Limited, for investigation and report within a period ending on 16 April 2010.

Provisional findings

2. An inquiry group of CC members (the Group) was appointed to consider this reference and has made the following provisional findings on the statutory questions it has to decide pursuant to section 36(1) of the Act:
 - (a) arrangements are in progress or contemplation which, if carried into effect, will result in the creation of a relevant merger situation; and
 - (b) the creation of that situation may not be expected to result in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the UK for online genealogical services.
3. The Group's provisional findings on these questions and its reasons are set out in the provisional findings report, a copy of which is on the CC website (see note (i) below).

The next steps

4. Anyone wishing to comment on the provisional findings is invited to provide the Group with their reasons in writing as to why these provisional findings should not become final (or, as the case may be, should be varied).
5. These reasons should be received by the Group no later than 11 March 2010.
6. The Group will have regard to any such reasons in making its final decisions on the statutory questions.

(signed) LAURA CARSTENSEN
Group Chairman
18 February 2010

Notes

- (i) A copy of this notice and the summary of the provisional findings report will be published on the CC website on 18 February. The CC intends to publish the provisional findings report on its website by 23 February. The published version of the provisional findings report will not contain any information which the Group considers should be excluded from the report, having regard to the three considerations set out in [section 244](#) of the Act.

(ii) Comments should be made in writing to:

Anne Jolly
Inquiry Manager
Brightsolid/Friends Reunited Inquiry
Competition Commission
Victoria House
Southampton Row
LONDON
WC1B 4AD

or by email to: BrightsolidFriendsRe@cc.gsi.gov.uk