

**REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED MERGER BETWEEN  
TICKETMASTER ENTERTAINMENT, INC AND LIVE NATION, INC**

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

1. On 10 June 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 merger of Ticketmaster Entertainment, Inc and Live Nation, Inc for investigation and report within a period ending on 24 November 2009.

**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) a relevant merger situation has been created; and
  - (b) the creation of that situation may be expected to result in a substantial lessening of competition (SLC) in the UK market for the primary retailing of tickets for live music events.
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). These reasons should be received by the Group no later than 29 October 2009 (see note (ii) below). The Group will have regard to any such reasons in making its final decisions on the statutory questions.
5. The Group has also issued today a notice of the possible actions which it considers might be taken for the purpose of remedying the SLC and/or the adverse effects which it expects to result from the SLC. A copy of this notice is also on the CC website.

*(signed)* CHRISTOPHER CLARKE  
Group Chairman  
8 October 2009

## Notes

- (i) A copy of this notice and the provisional findings report will be published on the CC website on 8 October 2009. 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 on the provisional findings should be made in writing to:

David Fowles  
Inquiry Manager, Live Nation/Ticketmaster merger inquiry  
Competition Commission  
Victoria House  
Southampton Row  
LONDON  
WC1B 4AD

or by email to: [LiveNationTicketmas@cc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:LiveNationTicketmas@cc.gsi.gov.uk).