

**COMPLETED MERGER OF THE BUSINESSES OF STERICYCLE INTERNATIONAL
LLC AND STERILE TECHNOLOGIES GROUP LIMITED**

Terms of reference

1. Whereas in exercise of its duty under section 22(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 ("the Act") to make a reference to the Competition Commission ("the Commission") in relation to a completed merger the Office of Fair Trading ("the OFT") believes that it is or may be the case that-

(a) a relevant merger situation has been created in that:

(i) enterprises carried on by or under the control of Stericycle International LLC have ceased to be distinct from enterprises carried on by or under the control of Sterile Technologies Group Limited; and

(ii) as a result, the condition specified in section 23(4) of the Act prevails or prevails to a greater extent, with respect to the supply of healthcare risk waste treatment and disposal in the United Kingdom; and

(b) the creation of that situation has resulted, or may be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the United Kingdom for goods or services, namely within the market for healthcare risk waste treatment and disposal in the United Kingdom.

2. Now, therefore, the OFT, in exercise of its duty under section 22 of the Act and its power under section 35(6) of the Act, hereby refers to the Commission, for investigation and report within a period ending on 12 December 2006, the following questions in accordance with section 35 of the Act-

(a) whether a relevant merger situation has been created; and

(b) if so, whether the creation of that situation has resulted, or may be expected to result, in a substantial lessening of competition within any market or markets in the United Kingdom.

3. In relation to the question whether a relevant merger situation has been created, the Commission shall exclude from consideration one of the subsections (1) and (2) of section 23 of the Act if they find that the other is satisfied.



Vincent Smith

**Director, Competition Enforcement Division
28 June 2006**