



## **MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT**      **7 JANUARY 2011**

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### **Competition Authority Clears the Acquisition of Cheshire Salt**

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed acquisition whereby Tata Chemicals Limited would acquire sole control of Cheshire Salt Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries, principally British Salt Limited. The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 17 December 2010.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction does not raise any competition concerns in the State. The companies have been informed of the decision that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State. The Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website ([www.tca.ie](http://www.tca.ie)) no later than 6 March 2011 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

#### **Notes**

Tata Chemicals Limited manufactures chemicals, fertilisers and food additives globally. In Europe, Tata Chemical Limited's only trading business is its wholly-owned subsidiary, Brunner Mond Group Limited. Tata Chemicals Limited has no manufacturing operations in the State. Tata Chemicals Limited sells into the State through Brunner Mond Group Limited. Brunner Mond Group Limited manufactures soda ash (sodium carbonate), sodium bicarbonate, calcium chloride and associated alkaline chemicals in the United Kingdom.

British Salt Limited manufactures pure dried vacuum salt (sodium chloride) products which it sells in the United Kingdom and abroad. British Salt Limited also develops salt cavities underground for the purpose of gas storage but this activity is only conducted in the United Kingdom.

#### **For further information contact:**

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