



Pressrelease

HAL

HAL files documents at Antimonopoly Service to acquire the Russian optical retailer Lensmaster

HAL Holding N.V. will file today documents at the Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service to ask permission to acquire the Russian optical retailer Lensmaster. Lensmaster currently operates 18 stores in Moscow. Its first half 2005 sales amounted to approximately € 6 million. A decision of the Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service is expected before the end of the year. Upon approval, HAL will acquire a 25% interest. It is expected that the remaining 75% will be acquired over a period from 2008 to 2011.

September 9, 2005