

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—NanoCable ATP Project No. 70NANB7H7043**

Notice is hereby given that, on November 15, 2007, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), NanoCable ATP Project No. 70NANB7H7043 has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the identities of the parties and (2) the nature and objectives of the venture. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, the identities of the parties to the venture are: NanoRidge Materials, Inc., Houston, TX; and The Boeing Company, Huntington Beach, CA. The general area of planned activity for NanoCable ATP Project No. 70NANB7H7043 is to develop a lightweight electrically conductive wire/cable utilizing conductive carbon nanotubes embedded in a polymer matrix.

The activities of this venture project will be partially funded by an award from the Advanced Technology Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**Patricia A. Brink,**

*Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.*

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filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Specifically, Capella University, Minneapolis, MN; John Wiley & Sons, Higher Education, Hoboken, NJ; The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA; Tele-Universite, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Tennessee Board of Regents—Campus Collective, Nashville, TN; University of North Carolina—Wilmington, Wilmington, NC; and University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada have been added as parties to this venture. Also, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN; and Committee on Institutional Cooperation, University Park, PA have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and IMS Global Learning Consortium, Inc. intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On April 7, 2000, IMS Global Learning Consortium, Inc. filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on September 13, 2000 (65 FR 55283).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 18, 2007. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on December 3, 2007 (72 FR 67965).

**Patricia A. Brink,**

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filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Specifically, Santa Barbara Infrared, Santa Barbara, CA has withdrawn as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and Interchangeable Virtual Instruments Foundation, Inc. intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On May 29, 2001, Interchangeable Virtual Instruments Foundation, Inc. filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on July 30, 2001 (66 FR 39336).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 10, 2007. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on November 7, 2007 (72 FR 6265).

**Patricia A. Brink,**

*Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.*

[FR Doc. 08-561 Filed 2-7-08; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Network Centric Operations Industry Consortium, Inc.**

Notice is hereby given that, on January 8, 2008, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Network Centric Operations Industry Consortium, Inc. has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Themis Computer, Fremont, CA; Wind River Systems, Alameda, CA; SteelCloud, Herndon, VA; SGI, Mountain View, CA; and S.C. SIVECO Romania S.A., Bucharest, Romania have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—IMS Global Learning Consortium, Inc.**

Notice is hereby given that, on January 10, 2008, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), IMS Global Learning Consortium, Inc. has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Interchangeable Virtual Instruments Foundation, Inc.**

A notice is hereby given that, on December 21, 2007, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Interchangeable Virtual Instruments Foundation, Inc. has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were

activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and Network Centric Operations Industry Consortium, Inc. intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On November 19, 2004, Network Centric Operations Industry Consortium, Inc. filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on February 2, 2005 (70 FR 5486).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 12, 2007. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on November 7, 2007 (72 FR 62866).

**Patricia A. Brink,**

*Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Antitrust Division

#### **United States v. Pearson PLC, Pearson Education Inc., Reed Elsevier PLC, Reed Elsevier NV, and Harcourt Assessment Inc.; Proposed Final Judgment and Competitive Impact Statement**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act, 15 U.S.C. 16(b)–(h), that a proposed Final Judgment, Stipulation, and Competitive Impact Statement have been filed with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in *United States v. Pearson plc, Pearson Education Inc., Reed Elsevier PLC, Reed Elsevier NV, and Harcourt Assessment Inc.*, Civil Action No. 1:08-cv-00143. On January 24, 2008, the United States filed a Complaint to enjoin the proposed acquisition by Pearson plc and Pearson Education Inc. (collectively “Pearson”), of Harcourt Assessment Inc. (“Harcourt”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reed Elsevier PLC and Reed Elsevier NV, and to obtain equitable and other relief. The Complaint alleges that Pearson’s acquisition of Harcourt would substantially lessen competition in the markets for adaptive behavior, speech and language, and adult abnormal personality clinical tests in violation of section 7 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. 18. The proposed Final Judgment, filed at the same time as the Complaint, requires Pearson to divest: (1) Harcourt’s

adaptive behavior clinical test, the Adaptive Behavior Assessment System; (2) Harcourt’s adult abnormal personality clinical test, the Emotional Assessment System, which is under development; and (3) in the speech and language clinical test market, either Pearson’s Comprehensive Assessment of Spoken Language and the Oral and Written Language Scales or Harcourt’s Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals.

Copies of the Complaint, proposed Final Judgment, and Competitive Impact Statement are available for inspection at the United States Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, Antitrust Documents Group, 325 7th Street, NW., Room 215, Washington, DC 20530 (telephone: 202–514–2481), on the United States Department of Justice’s Web site at <http://www.usdoj.gov/atr>, and at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Copies of these materials may be obtained from the Antitrust Division upon request and payment of the copying fee set by United States Department of Justice regulations.

Public comment is invited within 60 days of the date of this notice. Such comments, and responses thereto, will be published in the **Federal Register** and filed with the Court. Comments should be directed to James J. Tierney, Chief, Networks and Technology Enforcement Section, Antitrust Division, United States Department of Justice, 600 E Street, NW., Suite 9500, Washington, DC 20530 (telephone: 202–307–6200).

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 600 E Street, NW., Suite 9500, Washington, DC 20530, Plaintiff, v. Pearson PLC, 80 Strand WC2R 0RL London, England; Pearson Education Inc., One Lake Street, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458; Reed Elsevier PLC, 1–3 Strand WC2N 5JR London, England; Reed Elsevier NV, Radarweg 29, 1043 NX Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Harcourt Assessment Inc., 14500 Bulverde Road, San Antonio, Texas 78259, Defendants.

[Case No.: 1:08-cv-00143, Judge: Kollar-Kotelly, Colleen, Deck Type: Antitrust, Date Stamp: 1/24/2008]

### Complaint

The United States of America, acting under the direction of the Attorney General of the United States, brings this civil antitrust action to enjoin the proposed acquisition by Pearson plc and Pearson Education Inc. (collectively “Pearson”), of Harcourt Assessment Inc. (hereafter “Harcourt”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reed Elsevier PLC and

Reed Elsevier NV (collectively “Reed Elsevier”), and to obtain equitable and other relief. The United States complains and alleges as follows:

### I. Nature of the Action

1. On or about May 4, 2007, and amended on May 21, 2007, Pearson and Reed Elsevier signed a sale and purchase agreement for Pearson to acquire all of the outstanding voting securities of Harcourt, as well as additional Reed Elsevier assets, for approximately \$950 million in cash.

2. Pearson and Harcourt both develop, publish, market, sell, and distribute individually-administered standardized norm-referenced comprehensive clinical tests (hereafter “clinical tests”), including adaptive behavior and speech and language clinical tests. Pearson’s proposed acquisition of Harcourt would combine the two largest publishers of such tests in the United States. Pearson also develops, publishes, markets, sells, and distributes market-leading adult abnormal personality clinical tests. Harcourt has invested substantial resources in the development of a new adult abnormal personality clinical test and plans to enter the market for such tests within the next year.

3. The markets for adaptive behavior, speech and language, and adult abnormal personality clinical tests are highly concentrated and there are high barriers to enter these markets. Pearson’s proposed acquisition of Harcourt will eliminate competition between Pearson and Harcourt in these markets.

4. The United States brings this action to prevent Pearson’s proposed acquisition of Harcourt because it would substantially lessen competition in the markets for adaptive behavior, speech and language, and adult abnormal personality clinical tests in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. 18.

### II. Parties to the Proposed Acquisition

5. Pearson plc, a U.K. corporation with its headquarters in London, England, operates businesses in educational publishing, business information, and consumer publishing. Pearson Education Inc. (hereafter “Pearson Education”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pearson plc, is a Delaware corporation with its headquarters in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Pearson Education develops, markets, sells, and distributes clinical tests throughout the United States.

6. Reed Elsevier PLC; a U.K. corporation with its headquarters located in London, England, and Reed Elsevier NV, a Dutch corporation with