



## ACM: intended combination of postal networks PostNL and Sandd requires a license

**The Hague, 1 April 2019 - The Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) has announced that the intended combination of the postal networks of PostNL and Sandd requires a license. This decision concludes the first phase of the approval process. PostNL and Sandd will now file their request for such a license with the ACM.**

### **Reliable, accessible and affordable**

PostNL and Sandd announced their intention to combine both postal networks on 25 February 2019. The transaction would assure companies and consumers in the Netherlands of a future postal delivery service that remains reliable; accessible, also in rural areas and declining regions in the Netherlands; and affordable for senders of mail, while continuing to meet the high-quality standards they expect. Consolidation will also bring more job security for thousands of mail deliverers and makes it possible to address the declining postal market in a socially responsible manner.

### **Regulatory clearance**

The ACM has the authority to review the aspects of the transaction relating to competition law. The second phase of the ACM review process has a legal term of a maximum of 13 weeks, with a possible extension in case the ACM requires further clarifications. A judicious and swift approval process is important for the continuity of the postal service and employment in the postal sector.

We are PostNL. The postal and logistic solutions provider. For our customers, we are the link between the physical and the online world. We facilitate communications between people and companies. We deliver parcels seven days a week and letters five days a week. On weekdays, we deliver, on average, 800,000 parcels and 7 million letters throughout the Benelux. We offer more and more new services through combinations of smart networks, digital applications and the right communications channels. In doing so, we aim to make the daily lives of our customers easier. As a listed postal company, we have the largest and most modern network for letters, parcels and e-commerce in the Benelux countries. PostNL employs a total of circa 38,000 people. With our loyal workforce, extensive networks and innovative drive, our ambition is to be the leading postal and logistics solutions provider in chosen markets. In 2018 our revenues reached €2.8 billion.

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