

HD Deals of the day- Mergers and acquisitions**WC** 399 words**PD** 9 April 2014**ET** 23:29**SN** Reuters News**SC** LBA**LA** English**CY** (c) 2014 Reuters Limited**LP**

(Adds Petronas Chemicals Group; updates Woolworths Holdings)

April 9 (Reuters) - The following bids, mergers, acquisitions and disposals were reported by 1330 GMT on Wednesday:

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** South African retailer Woolworths Holdings Ltd is set to buy struggling Australian department store operator David for \$2 **billion** after trumping an offer from Myer Holdings Ltd.

** Goldman Sachs Group and U.S. private **equity firm** Warburg Pincus are among the companies that have advanced to the next round of the **sale** process to buy a **stake** in **China** Huarong Asset Management Co Ltd, people familiar with the matter told Reuters.

** Executives from Comcast Corp and Time Warner Cable Inc are expected to defend their plan to **merge** as they go before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, the first hearing since the \$45.2-**billion** deal was announced in February.

** Malaysia's Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd and BASF Nederland BV have agreed to invest 1.5 **billion** ringgit (\$463 **million**) in an aroma ingredients complex in the central state of Pahang, according to a filing on Wednesday.

** Swiss chemicals **company** Clariant and U.S. chemical manufacturer Ashland Inc said they had agreed to sell their joint venture ASK Chemicals to funds affiliated with private **equity** investment **firm** Rhone.

** Finnish utility Fortum said on Wednesday it would sell its Norwegian electricity distribution business as well as its share in Fredrikstad Energi and Fredrikstad Energi Nett to Norway's Hafslund.

** The largest shareholder in Belgian medical supplies **company** Arseus has sold its entire **stake** in a private placement, a larger **sale** than initially planned.

** **Oil** and gas explorer Tower Resources is raising 19.3 **million** pounds (\$32 **million**) to expand its African drilling program and help finance the **acquisition** of Africa-focused Rift Petroleum, the **company** said on Wednesday.

** Spanish olive **oil** bottler Deoleo, the target of a takeover battle that has taken on political dimensions, said on Wednesday that British private **equity firm** CVC Capital Partners had made the best bid for the **company**.

** Italian real estate **company** Risanamento is set to sign a deal on Wednesday to sell eight properties in Paris to British fund Chelsfield/The Olayan Group and another Paris property to shareholder Luigi Zunino, a source familiar with the matter said.

(\$1 = 0.5970 British Pounds) (\$1 = 3.2410 Malaysian Ringgit) (Compiled by Sneha Banerjee in Bangalore)

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CO comcst : Comcast Corporation | gldmns : The Goldman Sachs Group Incorporated | huaron : China Huarong Asset Management Co Ltd | myemp : Myer Holdings Ltd. | pcheqb : Petronas Chemicals Group Berhad | twcab : Time Warner Cable Inc | usscjd : United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary | wlhdsa : Woolworths Holdings Limited | ptrnas : Petroliam Nasional Berhad | wwrths : Precient Limited

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