

**HD Deals of the day- Mergers and acquisitions****WC** 957 words**PD** 25 June 2014**ET** 07:00**SN** Reuters News**SC** LBA**LA** English**CY** Copyright 2014 Thomson Reuters. All Rights Reserved.**LP**

(Adds Opera Software, GDF Suez, Endo International; updates KKR, San Miguel Corp)

June 24 (Reuters) - The following bids, mergers, acquisitions and disposals were reported by 2100 GMT on Tuesday:

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\*\* Swiss crop chemicals maker Syngenta has been in talks about a \$40 **billion** takeover by U.S. rival Monsanto Co to create the world's largest agrochemicals **company**, according to a Bloomberg report.

\*\* France has agreed to sell a 3.1 percent **stake** in gas utility GDF Suez and could sell as much as 3.6 percent to finance the **acquisition** of a state participation in engineering group Alstom, the government said. Based on Tuesday's 20.81 euro closing price, the operation would yield the state between 1.56 **billion** euros (\$2.12 **billion**) and 1.79 **billion** euros.

\*\* A high committee within Brazil's antitrust regulator recommended blocking the **purchase** of Argentina's chemical **firm** Solvay Indupa by petrochemical giant Braskem, according to Brazil's official gazette on Tuesday.

\*\* The former chief executive of Arabtec Holding has three offers for his 28.85 percent **stake** but is looking to sell his holding in the Dubai contractor for more than 6 dirhams per share, he told Reuters on Tuesday.

\*\* Israeli **energy** and insurance conglomerate Delek Group said on Tuesday it agreed to sell its 46.6 percent **stake** in Barak Capital to Eyal Bakshi, controlling shareholder of Barak Capital, for 237 **million** shekels (\$69 **million**).

\*\* Two consortia from Russia and South Korea have emerged as the final bidders of Uganda's \$2.5 **billion** refinery after two others from **China** and Japan were knocked out of the bidding process, the Ministry of **Energy** said on Tuesday.

\*\* The head of Spain's bank restructuring fund FROB said on Tuesday there were no short-term plans to sell off another piece of bailed-out bank Bankia after 7.5 percent of the lender was sold to institutional investors in February.

\*\* HSBC Holdings said it is selling \$12.5 **billion** of private banking assets in Switzerland to Liechtenstein's biggest bank LGT Group Foundation.

\*\* Ramon Ang, the president of San Miguel Corp, is to buy a minority **stake** in Philippine broadcaster GMA Network Inc in a deal worth around 15.3 **billion** pesos (\$349 **million**).

\*\* Drugmaker Endo International Plc said it would buy privately owned DAVA Pharmaceuticals Inc for \$575 **million** in cash to bolster its generics portfolio.

\*\* National Bank of Greece is reviewing second-round bids for its London-headquartered private **equity** business and hopes to sell it by the end of September, the bank's deputy chief executive Petros Christodoulou told Reuters on Tuesday.

\*\* U.S. healthcare **firm** Abbott Laboratories is to buy Russian drugmaker Veropharm for up to \$495 **million**, giving it a manufacturing presence in a country where it has been operating for nearly 40 years, Abbott said on Tuesday.

\*\* Norwegian mobile phone software **firm** Opera Software ASA is to buy U.S.-based mobile video advertising platform AdColony, it said on Tuesday, lifting its earnings forecast for 2014. Opera said it would pay \$75 **million** in cash for AdColony plus potential earn-out payments of up to \$275 **million**, with the total **purchase** price estimated at about \$245 **million**.

\*\* Japanese car electronics maker Pioneer Corp has agreed to sell its audio-video **operations** to **Hong Kong**-based Baring Private **Equity** Asia and Pioneer's Japanese rival Onkyo Corp.

\*\* Private **equity firm** KKR is to buy a one-third **stake** in indebted Spanish group Acciona's international **wind** farms arm for 417 **million** euros (\$567 **million**), the companies said on Tuesday, with a view to listing the business next year.

\*\* South Korean steelmaker Posco said it would not buy two of the units of cash-strapped conglomerate Dongbu Group, citing financial burdens and differences over asset prices.

\*\* Belgian biotech **company** ThromboGenics said it had ruled out putting itself up for **sale** and that its chief financial officer had resigned, a day after its shares fell to a near three-year low.

\*\* Australian **billionaire** Solomon Lew effectively ended a 17-year standoff with South Africa's Woolworths Holdings Ltd on Tuesday with a deal that will have the department store **firm** buy him out of two investments at a massive profit.

\*\* U.S. specialty media buyout **firm** Providence **Equity** Partners LLC is in discussions to buy struggling Australian broadcaster Ten Network Holdings, a source with knowledge of the discussions told Reuters.

\*\* Commodities trader Olam International Ltd said it has sold an 80 percent **stake** in its Australian grains business to Japan's Mitsubishi Corp for \$64 **million**.

\*\* Retailer Brookstone Inc announced on Monday that a federal bankruptcy court judge in Delaware has approved its **sale** to a consortium of **Chinese** investors that will run its 240 stores after exiting bankruptcy.

\*\* Loral Space & Communications Inc's efforts to sell itself and its main asset, Telesat Holdings Inc, broke down after the **company** failed to agree on a potential \$7 **billion** deal with the buyer group, people familiar with the matter said.

\*\* New Zealand power **company** Trustpower Ltd said it would buy hydro power stations and **wind** farm assets from Australia's New South Wales government for A\$72.2 **million** (\$68 **million**), expanding the **company's** renewable **energy** portfolio.

\*\* Reinsurer Validus Holdings Ltd said it would buy specialty insurer Western World Insurance Group Inc for about \$690 **million** in cash to strengthen its presence in the United States. (\$1 = 1.06 Australian dollars) (\$1 = 43.86 Philippine pesos) (\$1 = 0.74 euros) (\$1 = 0.59 British pounds) (\$1 = 0.89 Swiss francs) (\$1 = 3.67 United Arab Emirates dirhams) (\$1 = 3.44 Israeli shekels) (Compiled by Shailaja Sharma and Ramkumar Iyer in Bangalore)

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**CO** indarg : Solvay Indupa S.A.I.C. | monsan : Monsanto Company | operas : Opera Software ASA | smc : San Miguel Corp | gazfr : GDF Suez SA | slvay : Solvay SA

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