

**HD Deals of the day- Mergers and acquisitions**

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(Adds Carlyle Group, Premier **Oil**, Telecom Italia, Sidor, PSA Peugeot, Centerra **Gold**, AEA Investors, Billabong)

Feb 6 (Reuters) - The following bids, mergers, acquisitions and disposals were reported by 2100 GMT on Thursday:

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\*\* Private **equity firm** Carlyle Group LP is close to reaching an agreement to buy Illinois Tool Works Inc's industrial packaging unit for more than \$3 **billion**, and could announce the deal as soon as Thursday, people familiar with the matter said.

\*\* Britain's Premier **Oil** said it was seeking a partner for an **oil** development in the Falkland Islands in order to reduce its exposure to the \$5.2 **billion** project and make higher payouts to shareholders.

\*\* The board of Italian phone group Telecom Italia has agreed on a procedure that would introduce new safeguards for shareholders should it decide to sell its Brazilian unit TIM Brazil.

\*\* Venezuela on Thursday began buying the remaining 20 percent of shares in steelmaker Sidor from workers and retirees in a \$667 **million** operation that will give the state full ownership of the **firm**, a source familiar with the situation said.

\*\* PSA Peugeot Citroen's board has given Chief Executive Philippe Varin its backing to continue tie-up talks with **China's** Dongfeng Motor Group, the French carmaker said on Thursday.

\*\* Kyrgyzstan's parliament on Thursday gave the government up to four months to finalize a draft deal with Canada's Centerra **Gold** on forming a 50-50 joint venture to run the country's Kumtor **gold** mine.

\*\* Private **equity firm** AEA Investors LP is in advanced talks to acquire Gypsum Management and Supply Inc (GMS), a privately held maker of specialty building materials, for more than \$700 **million**, according to three people familiar with the matter.

\*\* Billabong International Inc said on Thursday it is considering a **sale** of its two e-commerce businesses as the Australian surf wear **company** looks to refocus on its core brand.

\*\* Hungary's FHB Bank has bought a 25 percent **stake** in the savings bank Takarekbank through a 252-**million** forint (\$1.12 **million**) capital increase, FHB said in a statement on Thursday.

\*\* Bankers are preparing debt packages to finance the potential sales of French natural ingredients producer Diana Ingredients and Spanish food group Deoleo, banking sources said on Thursday.

\*\* Green Mountain Coffee Roasters Inc, maker of the popular Keurig one-cup coffee brewer, said on Wednesday that the Coca-Cola Co had bought a 10 percent **stake** in it for \$1.25 **billion** and would help launch Green Mountain's new cold drink machine planned for release in October.

\*\* Vodafone Group Plc won the Indian cabinet's approval for its \$1.6 **billion** deal to buy out minority partners in its unit in the country, Information and Broadcasting Minister Manish Tewari said on Thursday.

\*\* Italy's top two banks, Intesa Sanpaolo and UniCredit, are in preliminary talks with U.S. investor KKR about setting up a fund to hold some of the lenders' problematic loans, two sources close to the matter said.

\*\* Kazkommertsbank KKB.KZ (KKB) is to buy rival BTA Bank jointly with Kazakh businessman Kenes Rakishev for about \$1 **billion**, in a deal that will shift BTA's bad debts left over from the financial crisis into the private sector.

\*\* Commerzbank has sold roughly \$1 **billion** in bad Spanish property loans in a bid to clean up its balance sheet and free up capital ahead of European banking health checks.

\*\* Finland's biggest mortgage lender OP-Pohjola Group has made an offer to buy out the rest of Pohjola Bank, its listed corporate banking arm, for 3.4 **billion** euros (\$4.60 **billion**) partly to tackle increasing competition in its home market.

\*\* Germany's Merck KGaA on Thursday extended the offer period for its planned \$2.6 **billion** takeover of Britain's AZ Electronic Materials to Feb. 18.

\*\* Belgium's Nyrstar, the world's largest zinc producer, will not become a shareholder of troubled Finnish miner Talvivaara, of which it is the largest creditor.

\*\* Dutch animal feed group Nutreco NV said it has put its compound feed and meat businesses in Spain and Portugal up for **sale** and will focus on its core animal nutrition and fish feed **operations**.

\*\* Three investment consortia - two involving Gulf Arab government-owned funds - plan to lodge indicative bids for Australian state-owned toll road **company** Queensland Motorways Ltd on Friday, sources close to the transaction said.

\*\* Thanachart Bank has held discussions with ING Groep about buying the Dutch financial services **company's** 31 percent **stake** in TMB Bank Plc, but no current talks are going on between the two parties, a person familiar with the matter told Reuters.

\*\* Syntaxis Capital, a Central European investment fund, has bought a **stake** in Polish motor insurance broker BIK Brokers and provided it with long-term financing, Syntaxis' partner Przemek Szczepanski said.

(\$1 = 0.74 euros) (\$1 = 225.57 Hungarian forints) (Compiled by Anannya Pramanick and Rohit T.K. in Bangalore)

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**CO** aea : AEA Investors LLC | cntra : Centerra Gold Inc | crlylg : The Carlyle Group | itw : Illinois Tool Works Inc. | peugct : PSA Peugeot Citroen SA | prmr : Premier Oil PLC | olivet : Telecom Italia S.p.A. | ccq : CCL Industries Inc

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