

EU competition regulator clears HP buyout of 3Com

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The European Commission on Friday cleared the purchase by US computer giant Hewlett-Packard of networking company 3Com, saying it would not harm competition in Europe.

"The commission concluded that the concentration would be unlikely to raise competition concerns," the EU's [competition watchdog](#) said in a statement.

"The commission's investigation confirmed that the merged company would continue to face a number of global and effective competitors giving customers the choice from a range of alternative providers," it said.

Hewlett-Packard, the world's largest [computer maker](#), announced in November that it had agreed to buy 3Com for 2.7 billion dollars (two billion euros) in a move it hoped would help them further expand in the growing Chinese market.

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