

PRESS RELEASE

April 14, 2008

DQS creates leading global certification company

Frankfurt a.M. - April 14, 2008 - DQS GmbH Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Zertifizierung von Managementsystemen, Frankfurt, (DQS) is merging with the management systems registration division (MSS – Management Systems Solutions) of Underwriters Laboratories Inc., Illinois, USA (UL). DQS has been advised on the transaction by Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft.

The MSS division of Underwriters Laboratories holds an especially strong market position in the USA and Asia. The merged enterprise will be one of the world's leading companies for the certification of management systems with a significant presence in the important core markets of Europe, North and South America and Asia.

The investment of UL, which will receive a 27.8 percent stake in DQS, has been enabled by a capital equipment increase. The remaining shareholders will be the DQS founding institutions DIN and DGQ, which hold equal stakes of 27.8%, and the industry associations VDMA, ZVEI, VCI, HDB and Spectaris.

The transaction still has to be agreed upon by the German Federal Cartel Office.

Luther has consulted its North American partner law firm Duane Morris LLP on US legal issues.

For DQS GmbH :

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH: Matthias Winter (Lead Management, Partner), Oliver Krall (both M&A, Frankfurt), Dr. Thomas Kapp (Partner), Anke Schumacher (both Antitrust Law, Stuttgart)

Duane Morris LLP, New York: Lee J. Potter, Jr. (Corporate/M&A), Eric W. McCormick (IP Law)

For Underwriters Laboratories:

CMS Hasche Sigle: Dr. Heike Wagner, Till Liebau (all M&A), Stefan Lehr (Antitrust Law)

Winston & Strawn LLP, Chicago: J. Ericson Heyke, III

UL-Inhouse: Andrew Krumpelt, Senior Corporate Counsel

Brief Profile of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

The firm Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH employs approximately 260 lawyers and tax advisors in Germany and operates in all economically relevant fields of legal and tax consulting, with its own offices at 13 German locations, as well as in Brussels, Budapest, Istanbul, Shanghai and Singapore. Its clients include medium-sized enterprises and large corporations, as well as the public sector. Luther is part of the PMLG international group of law firms (Pinsent Masons Luther Group) and is the German member of Taxand, a worldwide network of independent tax firms.

Further information is available at: www.luther-lawfirm.com

Press contact

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