

Luther

PRESS RELEASE

18 January 2010

Luther Opens Office in Luxembourg

Cologne, 18 January 2010 – Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH has opened an office in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg which comprises both Luxembourg and German lawyers. Now local firms providing financial services will benefit from the advice of a local team of approximately ten lawyers. With the new location, Luther is above all counting on the financial sector's potential for growth once the crisis is over, as well as on the increasing need for advice in connection with the growing number of asset management services.

Luther is the first major German law firm to open its own office in the international centre of finance Luxembourg. In all matters relating to tax law, Luther liaises with ATOZ, one of the most established and leading Luxembourg tax firms. ATOZ is also a member of Taxand, a worldwide network of independent tax firms. The two firms have been working together for years.

Eric Sublon, who previously worked for a renowned Luxembourg law firm, has moved to the new Luther office, as partner with a team of four who specialize in corporate and finance law. In particular the partners and lawyers from the "Financial Services" team of Luther Germany will work closely with their counterparts in Luxemburg. Claudia Leyendecker (banking and capital markets law), Dr. Carsten Bödecker (tax law for investment funds), Dr. Michael Fritzsche (real estate law) and Andrea Metz and Dr. Hermann J. Knott (corporate law) are the German partners responsible for the new office. They all have a wealth

of experience in international transactions and have repeatedly and increasingly been involved in cross-border transactions with Luxembourg. A team of three lawyers will move to the Luxembourg office on a permanent basis.

“Opening an office in Luxembourg is a further step in line with our growth plan,” says Managing Partner Dr. Stefan Kraus. “With the synergies we expect from the proven working relationship between Luther and ATOZ and the recruitment of Eric Sublon, a highly reputed local lawyer, we have already overcome local market entry barriers. Our qualified and highly experienced team can focus on business straight away.”

Claudia Leyendecker and Carsten Bödecker are convinced that Luther’s presence in Luxembourg is a substantial competitive advantage in advising financial service providers. “It is true that in the field of asset management, we have also advised German investors on tax, investment and regulatory issues in the past. Yet, with our new Luxembourg office we can become even more involved in the conception of international investment products, such as international funds or real estate projects, and provide advice on both Luxembourg law with our new colleagues and Luxembourg tax law thanks to our good relationship with ATOZ.”

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Brief Profile of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

Luther is one of the leading German commercial law firms, providing comprehensive services in all economically relevant fields of legal and tax consulting. As a full-service law firm, we employ more than 320 lawyers and tax advisors and are represented at 12 German economic centres and at important investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia with international offices in Brussels, Budapest, Luxembourg, Istanbul, Shanghai and Singapore. Our 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 and is the German member of Taxand, a worldwide network of independent tax firms.

Luther is a law firm with an entrepreneurial approach: our innovative awareness aspires us to provide our clients with customised legal advice that addresses individual needs and delivers the greatest possible economic benefit. Our lawyers and tax advisors have a solid understanding of interdisciplinary matters and a wealth of experience in collaborating on complex tasks.

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

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