

PRESSEMITTEILUNG

19 October 2011

Luther advises on the acquisition of the Damp Group

Dusseldorf/Frankfurt – The north German Damp Group, one of the largest private hospital operators in Germany, has been sold. The buyer is the Helios Kliniken Group, which has subscribed for approx. 95% of the shares in the Damp Group. Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH provided legal transactional advice to the seller. The parties have agreed not to disclose the sale price.

“The sale of the Damp Group was the largest transaction in the hospital sector in Germany this year,” said Dr Markus Schackmann, lead Partner and head of Luther’s M&A practice group. Providing M&A advice to the hospital sector is one of the law firm’s specialist areas (see clients on page 2).

The Damp Group owns, amongst other things, 11 acute inpatient and rehabilitation hospitals with a total of 4,112 beds together with numerous medical care centres and nursing and residential care institutions. Its network spans from Schleswig-Holstein to Hamburg and from Hamburg to Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. With approx. 6,000 employees, the Group is one of the largest employers in Northern Germany. In the financial year 2010 the Group's total turnover was estimated at around EUR 487 million with operating earnings of around EUR 21 million. The majority interest in the Damp Group's share capital is held by R&W Industriebeteiligungen GmbH.

Legal advice to the seller

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH: Dr Markus Schackmann (Lead Partner, Düsseldorf), Thomas Köhler (Partner, Eschborn/Frankfurt am Main), Dr Tobias Harzer (Düsseldorf/Munich) (all Corporate/M&A)

Tax advice to the seller

Thomas Salomon, ALR Treuhand GmbH

Procedural and economic advice to the Damp Group

Jörn Butenschön, Revisions- und Treuhandgesellschaft Kiel und Stralsund

Legal advice to Helios Kliniken Group

Inhouse: Stefan Eschmann, Carolin Tetzl (both M&A)

Current examples of Luther's services in the Health Care & Medical sector:

- Advising the State Capital of Wiesbaden on the planned part-privatisation of the municipal Dr Horst-Schmidt-Hospital (current project)
 - Advising the University Hospital in Freiburg and the registered association Benedikt Kreuz e.V. on incorporating one of the largest heart centres in Germany: the University Heart Centre Freiburg - Bad Krozingen GmbH (current project).
 - Advising the State Capital of Dresden on how to change its legal form and the consolidation of municipal hospitals (current project).
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Brief Profile Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

Luther is a leading German commercial law firm that offers comprehensive legal and tax services. The full-service law firm employs more than 320 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented at 12 German economic centres and at important investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia with international offices in Brussels, Budapest, Istanbul, Luxembourg, Shanghai and Singapore. Our clients are medium-sized enterprises and large corporations, as well as the public sector.

Luther works closely with other commercial law firms in all the prevailing jurisdictions worldwide. On the Continent, Luther is part of a group of independent leading law firms who have worked together for many years on joint cross-border projects. Luther is also the German member of Taxand, a global organisation of tax advisory firms.

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH is a law firm with a business 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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