

28 March 2014

Luther advises Essen University Hospital on the acquisition of West German Proton Therapy Centre Essen

Essen – Westdeutsche Protonentherapiezentrum Essen gGmbH, a wholly owned subsidiary of Essen University Hospital, acquired Westdeutsches Protonentherapiezentrum Essen (West German Proton Therapy Centre Essen, WPE) on 26 March 2014. This acquisition will make it possible for the company to operate one of the world's most advanced proton therapy centers, both medically and from the standpoint of the facility and the proton technology involved. Luther advised WPE gGmbH and Essen University Hospital throughout the process. Proton therapy is a state-of-the-art form of radiation therapy to treat tumors.

The interdisciplinary Luther team had provided strategic and legal advice for the project starting back when the move was initially considered, in 2004, and through all of the phases that followed (Europe-wide call for tenders, planning, construction, operation and financing).

A team of Luther attorneys headed by Essen-based partners Achim Meier and Henner M. Puppel were responsible for providing advice. Together with Christoph Schauenburg (Frankfurt/Main), the Luther team also supported the financing for the acquisition of facility and proton operations via a bank consortium involving KfW IPEX-Bank, DekaBank and Sparkasse Essen.

Through this engagement, Luther has once again underscored its position as one of Germany's leading law firms when it comes to complex hospital construction projects.

"Taking on facility and proton operations represents a major milestone in advancing the expansion of our center and patient care. We would like to thank our legal advisers for their sustained efforts and their professional and strategic skill," says Prof. Dr. mult. Eckhard Nagel, Medical Director of Essen University Hospital.

"We are pleased to be able to assist WPE gGmbH and Essen University Hospital as part of this successful acquisition, which has, among other things, established a reliable basis for successful patient care and technical operation," Achim Meier explains. "This success also makes it clear that we have established a model for WPE that is both geared toward real-world practice and sustainable," adds Henner M. Puppel.

For Essen University Hospital and Westdeutsches Protonentherapiezentrum Essen (West German Proton Therapy Centre Essen, WPE)

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Essen: Achim Meier, Henner M. Puppel (both Partner, Lead), Stephan Finck, Martin Steuber LL.M. (all Real Estate Law)

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Frankfurt: Christoph Schauenburg (Partner, Banking and Capital Markets)

Brief Profile Luther

Luther is a leading German commercial law firm that offers comprehensive legal and tax services. The full-service law firm employs over 350 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented at 11 German economic centres and at important investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia with international offices in Brussels, Budapest, London, 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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