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Luther advises PMG Print Medien Gesellschaft on merger in the press wholesale sector

Essen – The press wholesale companies PMG Print Medien Gesellschaft, Leverdy, Wilhelm Schmitz and Keppel have merged to form QTRADO GmbH & Co. KG with effect from January 1, 2019. The German Federal Cartel Office already approved the merger without conditions in July 2018. QTRADO will commence operations in April 2019. A team of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft provided PMG with legal support during the merger.

With a consolidated annual turnover of around 250 million euros (2017), QTRADO is Germany's largest press wholesaler. The joint venture, headquartered in Leverkusen, covers today's Grosso stores in Leverkusen, Duisburg, Dortmund, Gelsenkirchen and Krefeld. The companies ZTV Logistik (in future: QTRADO Logistics), Krefeld, and Hollmann, Düsseldorf, will also be united under the umbrella of QTRADO Holding, which was founded in September 2018.

QTRADO will supply more than 11,000 sales outlets in the Rhine-Ruhr metropolitan region with press products. Of these, Leverdy will bring around 4,250, Schmitz almost 3,400, PMG 2,200 and Keppel around 1,650 retail customers into the joint venture.

Luther supports PMG Print Medien Gesellschaft mbH & Co. KG since its foundation in 2008.

Consultants PMG Print Medien Gesellschaft mbH & Co. KG:

Luther (Essen): Dr. Arnd Becker (Partner, lead); Dr. Philipp Honisch (both Corporate)

Consultants Leverdy GmbH & Co. KG:

Flick Gocke Schaumburg (Bonn): Dr. Philipp Rulf (lead), Stefan Thilo (both corporate), Prof. Dr. Mathias Rogall (tax), Dr. Daniel Dreßler (auditing), Dr. Philipp Schweitzer (real estate, Frankfurt); Associates: Frieder Mörwald, Tobias Schwan (both tax)

Consultants Wilhelm Schmitz GmbH & Co. KG:

Breidenbach Rechtsanwälte GmbH (Wuppertal): Ralf Mertens (Corporate, tax, lead); Associate Saskia Wallot (corporate)

Breidenbach und Partner PartG mbB (Wuppertal): Armin Kroniger (auditing)

Consultants Presse-Großvertrieb Friedrich J. Keppel GmbH & Co. KG:

Hoffmann Liebs (Düsseldorf): Claus Eßers (lead), Julian Hoff (both corporate)

RSM GmbH (Krefeld) Katrin Steinecke (auditing, tax, lead), Dr. Felix Staaden (tax)

Consultants for all merger participants:

Flick Gocke Schaumburg (Bonn): Dr. Tobias Nießen, Dr. Andreas Wirtz (labour law)

Gleiss Lutz (Düsseldorf): Dr. Martin Raible (antitrust law)

Bürger & Bischoff (Cologne): Dr. Kai Bischoff (notary)

Brief Profile Luther

Luther is a leading German commercial law firm that offers comprehensive legal and tax services. The full-service law firm employs more than 380 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented at 10 German economic centres and at important investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia with international offices in Brussels, London, Luxembourg, Shanghai, Singapore and Yangon. 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 Rechtsanwalts-gesellschaft 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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