

PRESS RELEASE

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Significant Hires boost Banking & Finance Team

Köln/Frankfurt, February 26, 2008 – Luther

Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft continues successfully its growth path. The law firm is strengthening its Banking & Finance team in Frankfurt with the addition of Claudia Leyendecker and two further specialists from Beiten Burkhardt, and Dr. Andreas Zahn from Jones Day.

In addition to Claudia Leyendecker (Partner), Andreas Naujoks (Partner) and Mathias Raabe (Senior Associate) will join Luther on March 1st, 2008. The new colleagues are highly regarded for their expertise in insurance and banking supervision law, investment law, acquisition financing as well as structured and syndicated financing.

They join at the same time as Dr. Andreas Zahn, also a Partner from Jones Day. He specialized in capital market law, securitizations, derivatives as well as acquisition and project financing. With recent lateral hires (Dr. Rolf Kobabe and Dominik von Wissel from DLA Piper in Hamburg, Matthias Voß from Lovells in Frankfurt, and Dagmar Noll from the BHF Bank), Luther already started to expand its Banking & Finance practice. Together with the new appointments Luther's Banking & Finance Service Line now comprises over 21 attorneys in Germany, among them 8 Partners.

Dr. Stefan Kraus, Managing Partner at Luther, commented: "We have gained another remarkably successful Banking & Finance team, and we are excited at the arrival of our new colleagues in Frankfurt. The expertise and extensive experience of Dr. Andreas Zahn will also bring

great value to our team. We have an extraordinary powerful Banking & Finance group now. Along with their colleagues in Berlin and Hamburg, they will cover a wide-ranging area of our business. The new appointments reflect our commitment to strengthen our market position after having bolstered our Asia practice and started to enhance our tax consultancy.”

Kraus is satisfied with the remarkable results achieved by Luther’s growth strategy, the precise market positioning and its corporate culture. “The new colleagues are appealed by our strategic approach, and they see much better opportunities with Luther than with other German or English-speaking competitors.”

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 Ankara, 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

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