

7 May 2013

Dr Bernd J. Götze to join Luther's Singapore office

Singapore – On 1 May 2013, Dr Bernd J. Götze (62) joined Luther's Singapore office as Of Counsel. He will advise clients with regard to project and plant engineering and alternative dispute settlement. Dr Götze has worked as a lawyer in Asia for about 25 years. In 1996, he established a law firm in Singapore which became the law firm Kleiner Rechtsanwälte. Up until he joined Luther, Dr Götze had managed the Singapore office of Kleiner Rechtsanwälte.

“Providing an existing strong team with my experience and knowledge of the Asian mentality is worth changing my career once again”, said Dr Bernd J. Götze about joining Luther. His experience in international plant engineering – mainly regarding infrastructure projects but also shipbuilding – will contribute to the development of this practice area in the Singapore office.

Further, Dr Götze will support the team in the area of general contract design, especially with regard to European clients. The lawyer specialises in a field of law that is based on common law and can thus advise the clients already in preparation of contract negotiations accordingly. The same applies to contractual disputes which require his expertise in the out-of-court settlement of disputes as well as his experience before arbitration courts. Furthermore, Dr Götze's practical knowledge of the Japanese legal language, his proximity to the Japanese clients and the international building sector should result in an excellent cooperation with the Singapore team.

“As the lawyer of trust of the Swiss Embassy, Dr Götze is an ideal supplement to our advisory services addressed to Swiss companies when entering the Singapore market. And as a recognised expert for Japan, he further enables us to advise on transactions

that are increasingly being managed and taken care of from Singapore directly in Japan”, said Dr Claus Trenner who manages the Singapore office of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft.

“We intend to further the constant development and expansion of our offices and expertise in Asia”, added Dr Markus Sengpiel, Managing Partner at Luther. The joint practice is already today one of the largest European law firms in Singapore. Since the opening of the office in 2003 the team has constantly grown and now consists of about 70 employees.

Luther has been advising quickly growing companies on projects in the Asian-Pacific area for several years, but also Asian companies regarding their opening up the German market. The law firm has offices or co-operation partners in China, India and Southeast Asia. For further information see <http://www.luther-lawfirm.com/asien.php>.

Personal details

Dr Bernd J. Götze studied law and Japanese studies in Freiburg, Germany. After being admitted to the German Bar in 1981, he worked for an international law firm in Japan and subsequently for a British law firm in Singapore. He then managed for three years the East-Asian department of the Max Planck Institute for foreign and international criminal law in Freiburg. After working for six years for Baker & McKenzie in Frankfurt a.M. (from 1989 onwards), he opened an office in Singapore in 1996 which was the second German law firm at that time and became the law firm Kleiner Rechtsanwälte in 1998, i.e. the Singapore office.

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 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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