

Logistics: Luther advises Swissport on investment in Düsseldorf Airport Cargo

Cologne, 24.03.2023 – Swissport, the world's largest provider of ground handling services and air cargo handling, will become the majority shareholder of Flughafen Düsseldorf Cargo GmbH. Under the new name Swissport DUS Cargo Services, the company will combine Swissport's global network and modern technology with the strong catchment area and expertise of Düsseldorf Airport. Swissport was advised on the merger by Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft.

Subject to approval by the cartel authorities, Swissport Deutschland GmbH and Flughafen Düsseldorf GmbH will in future jointly participate in the air cargo service provider. The shares in Swissport DUS Cargo Services GmbH are to be held 74.9 % by Swissport and 25.1 % by Flughafen Düsseldorf GmbH.

Swissport will spin off its existing air cargo handling business at Düsseldorf Airport and contribute it into the joint company. As a result, around 130 employees will work for Swissport DUS Cargo Services GmbH in Düsseldorf in the future.

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft provided comprehensive advice to the Swissport Group on the transaction: In addition to the legal due diligence, it supported Swissport in the bidding process coordinated by Roland Berger in all legal matters and in the negotiations with the previous sole owner, Flughafen Düsseldorf GmbH.

"Luther's team provided us with excellent, very competent and reliable support in the many different facets of this transaction," said Caroline Büth, Senior Legal Counsel at Swissport International AG.

About Swissport:

In 2022, the Swissport Group provided services for around 186 million passengers (2021: 97 million) and handled around 4.8 million tonnes of airfreight (2021: 5.1 million) in 117 airfreight centres worldwide. Several of its warehouses have been certified by IATA's CEIV Pharma and the UK's MHRA for pharmaceutical logistics. The world's leading provider of ground handling services and air cargo handling, with currently around 50,000 employees, operates at 292 airports in 45 countries on six continents. <https://www.swissport.com/en>

On behalf of Swissport International AG:

Luther, Corporate/M&A: Thomas Weidlich, LL.M. (Partner, Lead), Philipp Dietz, LL.M. (Partner), Falco Rohrberg, LL.M. (Senior Associate), Dr Madeleine Martinek, LL.M. (Associate).

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Luther, Competition Law: Dr Helmut Janssen, LL.M. (Partner), Martin Lawall, LL.M. (Associate), Lasse Langfeldt, LL.M. (Associate)

Luther, Tax Law: Dr Zacharias-Alexis Schneider, LL.B., LL.M. (Partner)

Inhouse: Caroline Büth (Senior Legal Counsel)

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

Luther is a leading German commercial law firm that offers comprehensive legal and tax advice. The full-service law firm employs over 420 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented in ten German economic hubs as well as with 11 of its own international offices in key investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia. Its clients include 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. Luther is a founding member of unyer (www.unyer.com), a global organisation of leading professional services firms that cooperate exclusively with each other.

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. All of Luther's lawyers and tax advisers have a solid understanding of interdisciplinary matters and a wealth of experience in collaborating on complex tasks. Luther has been named "Law Firm of the Year: Germany 2021" and also "European Law Firm of the Year 2021" by The Lawyer, one of the most well-known legal magazines worldwide. Further information is available at: www.luther-lawfirm.com.

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