

Green Deal: Luther advises family business Holger Greck Forstbaumschulen on partnership with Beyond Capital Partners

Berlin, 04.10.2023 – Holger Greck Forstbaumschulen GmbH has entered into a partnership with the private equity investor Beyond Capital Partners. As one of the leading German forest tree nurseries, the company makes an important contribution to the reforestation of forests and thus to achieving Germany's climate protection goals. In the transaction, the family-run Holger Greck Forstbaumschulen GmbH and its owners received comprehensive legal and tax advice from Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft.

Holger Greck Forstbaumschulen GmbH ("HGF"), based in Halstenbek near Hamburg, has taken on Beyond Capital Partners Fund III, advised by Beyond Capital Partners GmbH ("BCP"), as an investor, which has acquired a majority stake in the company. The closing took place in September 2023.

The topics of reforestation and decarbonisation are a sustainable macro trend that HGF and BCP are supporting through their cooperation. According to current studies, there is a need for reforestation of around 1.6 billion trees in the German forest due to forest damage alone. Professional forest tree nurseries like HGF continuously help to meet this need. BCP's investment will enable HGF to accelerate its growth and continue its expansion.

Managing Director Holger Greck: "The experienced Luther team provided us with excellent support during the transaction and the upstream restructuring. The highest level of professionalism, Luther's great economic understanding and solution-oriented advisory approach impressed us greatly and enabled us to complete this project, which is important for the future of our company, in a short period of time."

About Holger Greck Forstbaumschulen GmbH:

HGF is one of Germany's leading forest tree nurseries for the cultivation of premium young forest plants and is a fourth-generation family-owned business. The company grows many millions of seedlings annually on more than 100 hectares in the Halstenbek area near Hamburg, covering a wide range of tree species. The forest tree nursery has been supplying municipalities, federal states as well as other tree nurseries and private forest owners since 1938 and has grown continuously in recent years.

Forest nurseries are an important subgroup of tree nurseries and manage around 12 % of Germany's total nursery areas. Overall, forest tree nurseries play a central role in the fight against climate change, as they are an integral part of the reforestation of German forests. At the same time, they enable companies to become more sustainable and achieve climate targets. The demand for seedlings for forest plants has risen accordingly. The German forest relieves the atmosphere of 62 million tons of CO2 annually.

About Beyond Capital Partners:

Beyond Capital Partners is an investment company and acquires majority stakes in profitable medium-sized companies from the DACH region through the funds it advises, with a focus on the asset-light sectors of services, IT, software, healthcare, lifestyle and entertainment. This transaction benefits from the support of the European Union under the InvestEU Fund.

<https://beyondcapital-partners.com>

On behalf of Holger Grellck Forstbaumschulen GmbH and its owner:

Luther, Corporate/M&A: Dr Christian Horn, LL.M. (Lead Partner), Stefan Hubertus Tolksdorf, LL.M. (Senior Associate), Anton Spinty (Senior Associate), Dr Karina Wojtowicz (Senior Associate), Antonia Schmidt (Associate)

Luther, Tax Law: Dr Zacharias-Alexis Schneider, LL.B., LL.M. (Partner), Marco-Marcel Niebuhr (Senior Associate)

Luther, Real Estate: Doreen König (Partner), Florian Schwuchow, LL.M. (Counsel)

Luther, Employment Law: Prof. Dr. Robert von Steinau-Steinrück (Partner), Caroline Risse (Associate)

Luther, Intellectual Property: Dr Detlef Mäder (Partner), Dr Aline Mück (Associate)

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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