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Luther to advise Biella Group on the acquisition of the folder supply business of Groupe Hamelin

Berlin – The Swiss Biella Group, the largest European manufacturer of folders and ring binders, has taken over the folder supply business of Groupe Hamelin effective as of 15 January 2014. It obtained legal advice from the law firm of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH. This major law firm had offered legal advice to the office supplies manufacturer already in April 2012, when the German Falken Group spun off from the Herlitz Group.

With the present acquisition, Biella Group will strengthen its strategic position as the largest European manufacturer of folders and ring binders. The purchaser is Biella Deutschland GmbH, a German subsidiary of Biella-Neher Holding AG. It took over the supply business for private label and no name folders from Groupe Hamelin, which is represented by Hamelin GmbH, Gronau (Germany). The business conducted under the brand names "Elba" and "Bantex" will, however, remain with Hamelin.

About Biella Group

Biella-Neher Holding AG (Biella Group) is the largest European manufacturer of folders and ring binders. The company headquarters are located in Brügg (Switzerland). Biella employs about 1,100 people group-wide. Net sales in 2012 amounted to about CHF 188 million.

Biella-Group is present across all of Europe: its production network includes plants in Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Great Britain, and Romania. But the Group has also logistics centers in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and the Netherlands as well as eight marketing companies.

About Groupe Hamelin

Groupe Hamelin is a French manufacturer of stationeries and office supplies with its registered place of business in Caen (France). In 2010, the company had about 3,000 employees, and its sales totaled EUR 600 million.

For Biella Group

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Berlin:

Prof. Dr. Jörg Rodewald (Lead Partner), Dr. Moritz Brocker (both Mergers & Acquisitions), Dr. Holger Stappert (Partner), Franz-Rudolf Groß, LL.M. (both Antitrust Law), Prof. Dr. Robert von Steinau-Steinrück (Partner), Dr. Julia Burkard-Pötter (both Employment Law)

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 employs over 350 lawyers and tax advisors and 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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