

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Luther is Taxand's Partner in Germany**

#### **Tax law consulting established as a further core competence**

**Cologne, January 21, 2008 – The law firm Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH is a new member of Taxand, a leading international network of independent tax advisory firms and law firms with very strong tax capabilities. The law firm has recruited a tax law specialist - Ulrich Siegemund - as a tax partner, and will in future be making considerable increases to the number of professionals working in this field.**

In conjunction with advice on commercial law, companies are increasingly asking for tax advisory services from a single source which enable them to identify and take into consideration the tax effects on their business in order to be able to take strategic decisions. Luther's business law practice therefore requires qualified tax advisory services to be added to the range of advisory services it offers. Luther has in-depth experience of multidisciplinary collaboration and therefore offers an interesting work environment for tax specialists.

Development of the tax side of the business will be started by the Frankfurt lawyer and tax advisor Ulrich Siegemund, who will begin work as a partner at Luther on February 1, 2008, spearheading the building up of its tax advisory services. He will be accompanied by a team of eight to ten further tax specialists who will soon be starting work at Luther, covering all important aspects of tax law. The full-service law firm intends to further expand its tax services considerably in the future.

"With Ulrich Siegemund we have succeeded not only in recruiting a proven tax specialist, but also winning back an old fellow", explains Dr. Stefan Kraus, Managing Partner at Luther. "Siegemund was with us until 2002 (when the firm was known under the name Andersen Luther), working at the same time as a partner in the tax department of Arthur Andersen, so that we know each other very well and have a good deal of respect for one another."

Siegemund, who has been working as a partner at Deloitte & Touche since 2002, has been specialising in the field of international transactions, including real estate transactions for foreign investors ("inbound business").

Taxand was established in 2005 as a network of premier independent tax firms from countries around the world who share a common vision of delivering seamless and responsive service to local and international clients. Only one member is allowed to join the network from each country – and in Germany this is Luther. Taxand currently has member firms in 41 countries with a total of 1,800 tax experts, of whom more than 300 are partners.

"I am not at all surprised about Taxand's growth," Kraus comments. "Many of the people working for it have co-operated as partners at other international professional services organisations in the past, so they know each other very well. And that is exactly what Luther and many Luther partners have in common as part of Taxand."

Membership of the Taxand network is an ideal supplement to Luther's longstanding membership of the Pinsent Masons Luther Group (PMLG), which specialises in commercial law, thereby reinforcing the reach of Luther's international network.

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## **Profile of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH**

The firm Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH employs approximately 260 lawyer and tax advisor 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](http://www.luther-lawfirm.com)

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