

PRESS RELEASE

September 23, 2008

Luther Supports the City of Hilden in the Partial Sale of the Municipal Utility

September 23, 2008 – The city of Hilden has sold 49.9 per cent of its municipal utility for 51.8 million Euros to the Stadtwerke Düsseldorf AG. The city has been advised on the tender procedure by Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft.

The city of Hilden negotiated with three interested parties most recently, before the Stadtwerke Düsseldorf AG finally gained the tender. In addition to the purchase price the city of Hilden and the Stadtwerke Hilden GmbH will profit from further benefits in the amount of 1.73 million Euros. The total transaction volume amounts to 53.53 million Euros. The tender procedure has shown a distinctive pattern as it followed the body of regulations of EU public procurement law regarding public procurement procedures.

Main advice on the procedure has been provided by SMM Managementberatung GmbH in Düsseldorf. Ernst & Young AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft Steuerberatungsgesellschaft consulted on tax-related issues.

For the city of Hilden:

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft: Corporate / M&A: Dr. Carsten E. Beisheim (Partner, Lead Management), Dominik Hanus, LL.M., Barbara Schnepf (all Düsseldorf); Procurement Law: Ulf-Dieter Pape (Partner), Dr. Henning Holz (both Hanover); Labor Law: Hans-Christian

Ackermann (Partner, Düsseldorf); Energy Law and Antitrust Law: Guido Jansen (Partner, Düsseldorf).

For the Stadtwerke Düsseldorf AG:

Lovells LLP (Dr. Franz Josef Schöne, Düsseldorf); Inhouse: Meinulf Hermanns.

Brief Profile of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

Luther is one of the leading German commercial law firms providing comprehensive services in all economically relevant fields of legal and tax consulting. The full-service law firm employs approximately 280 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented at 13 German economic centers and at important investment locations in Europe and Asia with its five international offices in 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 (www.pmlg.eu) and is the German member of Taxand, a worldwide network of independent tax firms (www.taxand.com).

Further information is available at: www.luther-lawfirm.com

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