Luther

PRESS RELEASE

13 January 2009

Societas Europaea under Review

Essen, 13 January 2009 – An international team under the direction of Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft and Ernst & Young société d'avocats, France, has been commissioned by the European Commission with a Europe-wide study regarding the implementation and effects of the Statute for a European Company (SE).

The study, which was the subject of a Europe-wide invitation to tender, will be carried out over a period of 14 months with the objective of evaluating the implementation and effects of the Statute for a European Company (SE) in the various European Member States. The work in the 25 Member States involved will be coordinated by a steering committee comprised of six members under the direction of Dr. Arnd Becker (Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Essen) and Dr. Luc Julien-St-Amand (Ernst & Young société d'avocats, Strasbourg). Further members of the committee are Bastian Laue (Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Essen), Frederique Desprez (Ernst & Young société d'avocats, Paris), Thilo Hoffmann (Weinhold Legal, Prague) and Kristin Normann (Advokatfirmaet Selmer DA, Oslo). The team will be given scientific assistance by a scientific committee consisting of prominent members such as Prof. Michel Menjucq, University of Paris Pantheon-Sorbonne, Prof. Jonathan Rickford, London School of Economics, and Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult Klaus J. Hopt, emeritus director of the Max-Planck Institute for Foreign and International Private Law, Hamburg.

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 more than 280 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented at 13 German economic centres 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).

Luther is a law firm with an entrepreneurial 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

Press Contact

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH Annette von Frankenberg Anna-Schneider-Steig 22 50678 Cologne

Phone: 0221 9937 18013

E-mail: annette.von.frankenberg@luther-lawfirm.com