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Luther assists Gauselmann Group in entering the German casino market

Leipzig – Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH has successfully assisted the Gauselmann Group in the selection process to obtain a license to operate public casinos in the German state of Saxony-Anhalt. The Gauselmann Group will now be able to open two casinos in the state, as planned. This marks the Group's entry into the German casino sector.

In a meeting on 21 May 2013, the Saxony-Anhalt state government granted Merkur Spielbanken Sachsen-Anhalt GmbH & Co. KG a license to operate. Merkur Spielbanken Sachsen-Anhalt GmbH & Co. KG is a joint venture between Stadtcasino Baden AG and Gauselmann Spielbanken Beteiligungs GmbH. The companies received legal advice from Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH and advice on financial matters from IEG Deutschland GmbH.

"We are happy that the first step toward the Gauselmann Group's entry into the German casino market has been completed," says Dr. Thomas Gohrke, the partner at Luther who has been responsible for the project. "After the multi-stage award process, the state has chosen the best concept," he adds. The Gauselmann Group had presented the state with a long-term plan that convinced the government due to its professionalism and expertise, solid finances, and the social concept and local economic strategy it laid out.

To prepare the plan, the Gauselmann Group relied on a practiced team of casino experts from Luther and IEG. The team has already provided assistance with multiple casino privatization and concession processes in other states in Germany, including Lower Saxony, Thuringia, and Schleswig-Holstein. "This approval will also help the

Gauselmann Group in other proceedings. I think this is just the beginning of a significant change in the German casino landscape," says Gohrke.

For the Gauselmann Group

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Leipzig: Dr. Thomas Gohrke (Partner, lead management), Dr. Markus Nagel (both of the Public Law practice group), Karsten Köhler (Partner, Public Procurement Law)

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH, Hannover: Dr. Thomas Halberkamp (Partner), Dr. Andreas Blunk (both of the Corporate Law/M&A practice group), Jens Röhrbein (Partner, Tax Law)

IEG Deutschland GmbH, Berlin: Dr. Ulrich Puls (Managing Director), Martin Alpermann (Vice President), Alexandros Tziamtzis (Associate)

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 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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