

Press Release: KSLEX – New Law Firm in Munich

Munich, **10th January 2012** – At the beginning of 2012, the lawyers Dr. Jörg Kretschmer, 53, and Frank Schmeisser, 41, founded a new law firm under the name KSLEX Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH in Munich. They have known each other for five years when working together at Heisse Kursawe Eversheds in Munich (Eversheds). Jörg Kretschmer left Eversheds at the end of last year while Frank Schmeisser had already left more than one year ago.

From 2006 through 2011 Jörg Kretschmer was partner in the Corporate / M&A department of Eversheds in Munich. Prior to this, he was founding partner of the Munich office of McDermott Will & Emery, a U.S. premier international law firm and, as Co-Office Head of the Munich office, he was a member of the worldwide management committee of McDermott. Prior to this Mr. Kretschmer was for 10 years with Beiten Burkhardt, since 1996 as a partner.

After Frank Schmeisser had worked as in-house counsel for various media companies from 2000 through 2005 (among others for ProSiebenSAT.1 AG) he worked as lawyer/counsel in the IP and Corporate department at Eversheds in Munich from 2006 to 2010. Subsequently Mr. Schmeisser was an independent lawyer at his own law firm.

The launch team is completed by one Senior Associate, Bich Vu Tuyet (32). She started her career as Corporate Associate at Clifford Chance in Düsseldorf from 2008 and 2009. Later she was part of Mr. Kretschmer's team at Eversheds from 2009 to 2011.

KSLEX, a law firm exclusively counselling businesses, places its focus on Corporate / M&A, IP, Commercial (supporting clients in their day-to-day operative business, including insolvency related advice) and Litigation (including arbitration proceedings) relating to the foregoing areas of law. The founding partners are planning to complete their range of services by also covering labour law and trademark law. The aim is to establish a team of about 10+ lawyers in the short and/or mid-term in order to be in a position to offer the clients essentially complete legal services. The strategic focus lies on small and medium cap transactions and on the counselling of small and medium enterprises both as to day-to-day needs and projects, a certain emphasize being on US-American and British companies.

The longstanding client base of the founding partners include the following: a worldwide operating US-American manufacturer of devices and machines in the printing industry, a Scottish pharmaceutical company, a car leasing company and fleet management service provider of a leading European bank, a logistics company of the Royal Mail Group, licensing agencies as well as a film licensing and film distribution company.

Mr. Kretschmer and his team recently advised on the following transactions: acquisition of a company in the semiconductor industry in Dresden for an US-American stock exchange listed company; acquisition of a work organization / time management company by a strategic partner; sale of a company in the market of telecommunications / data systems to a French competitor; sale of a company operating in the field of presentations, online meetings and web conferences to SEN; acquisition of a company in the field of computer lifecycle by an US-American/Australian group; sale of a company operating in the field of automotive / sun simulation to a competitor; debt-restructuring of a Scottish pharmaceutical company; acquisition of a foil manufacturer by an US-American stock exchange listed company.

“I had an interesting time at Eversheds, but now after 20 years of working for major international law firms, I believe time is right to implement own ideas and plans. With KSLEX we have established a top-notch law firm which also gives young lawyers a promising perspective – a factor that cannot be taken for granted in the current market environment”, explains Jörg Kretschmer. Frank Schmeisser maintains “I am looking forward to embarking on the challenge of establishing our new law firm, and I am convinced that, in particular, Munich, as a business location, offers the ideal environment for our startup.”

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