

Press Release



Further expansion of the Taylor Wessing China Group by a three-lawyer team in Munich and Beijing

6 March 2009

TAYLOR WESSING expands its China Group by an experienced three-lawyer team from Rödl & Partner for the locations Munich and Beijing to stay abreast of the constantly increasing needs of European clients investing in the People's Republic of China (China inbound) as well as of Chinese clients acting in Europe (China outbound).

As partner Mike Goldammer (34) supports since 16 February the China Group of the Munich office under Michael Florian Ranft, international head of the department. After more than 5 years experience as head of the legal department of Rödl & Partner in Beijing, Mike Goldammer has good expertise in the China business. His main area of activity is next to the classic areas such as Foreign Direct Investment (concepts for a market entry, formation of Joint Ventures, wholly foreign owned enterprises and the acquisition of companies etc.) primarily the areas of restructuring, licensing and labour law. The branches mainly covered by Mr. Goldammer are engineering and plant construction, automotive suppliers, the chemical industry, renewable energies, IT as well as advertising and media.

Together with Mike Goldammer two Chinese senior associates joined Taylor Wessing, namely Mrs. Ke Shen (31) and Mr. Yang Yu (36) who will reinforce the team of Taylor Wessing's Beijing office as from March 9. Both speak fluently German and English and are especially conversant with advising German clients.

Mrs. Shen was with Rödl & Partner since 2003, first in Nuremberg and later in Beijing. She has good expertise with WFOE and Joint Venture formation projects as well as with the structuring of financing plans. Amongst her customers are airlines, automotive suppliers, engineering and logistics companies, real estate funds and media companies. Due to her being competent for the outbound China business at Rödl & Partner Mrs. Shen has good contacts with Chinese companies who have already invested or are about to invest in Europe.

Mr. Yu worked for Rödl & Partner since 2004. His main practice areas were the advising of German companies entering the Chinese market, mainly in the fields of Chinese investment, corporate and commercial laws, Mergers & Acquisitions, real estate acquisition, labour law and

arbitration proceedings. His clients' spectrum comprises amongst others engineering, chemistry and real estate.

M. Florian Ranft, International Head of the China Group on the new entrants:

“The opening of the Beijing office in autumn last year followed by three new entrants in Munich and Beijing shows that we consequently and actively expand the Beijing office as well as the group. With about 30 fee earners having a broad spectrum of expertise we are well prepared at all locations to advise our clients comprehensively in both time zones, even with an increase of the number of projects attended to. We have come closer another step to our objective to be the first bridge between Europe and China.“

Taylor Wessing is one of the leading business law firms in Europe with German offices in Berlin, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg und Munich. Further offices are located in Brussels, Cambridge, Dubai, London and Paris and representative offices in Alicante, Beijing and Shanghai. All in all Taylor Wessing has worldwide about 750 persons of the profession.

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Press release



Taylor Wessing advises Emerald Technology Ventures AG on its second PIPE investment into Schmack Biogas AG

5 January 2008

TAYLOR WESSING has advised Emerald Technology Ventures, a globally leading Cleantech Venture Capital Fund in connection with the share rights issue of Schmack Biogas AG, Schwandorf/Oberpfalz. The company gave notice on 30 December 2008 that in the course of the share rights issue resolved by the company's management board with the approval of the supervisory board on 7 December 2008 a total of 2,067,737 new registered shares were subscribed to at an issue price of EUR 3.07 per new share. It is expected that the capital increase will be registered in the commercial register in the course of January. The gross proceeds of the capital increase are approximately EUR 6.35 m. The capital increase will strengthen Schmack Biogas AG's capitalisation and secure the funds required to finance the expected follow-up contracts for the construction of gas feed-in plants from energy companies. Schmack Biogas AG intends to list the shares for trading in the regulated market of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange by latest 30 June 2009.

Emerald Technology Ventures had undertaken together with other investors as well with all members of the company's management board to subscribe to up to 1,872,964 shares to secure the financing. Emerald Technology Ventures had previously invested in Schmack Biogas AG prior to its IPO. After the exit of the venture capital funds in the course of the IPO, Emerald Technology Ventures made a first PIPE investment in the company in April 2008.

Taylor Wessing advised Emerald Technology Ventures comprehensively in all aspects of this transaction, including the negotiations with HypoVereinsbank AG as the credit and issuer's bank of the company. Taylor Wessing Partner Dr. Peter Hellich, Head of Taylor Wessing's Corporate Department, has advised Emerald Technology Ventures for many years in its transactions in Europe. Hassan Sohbi is Co-Head of Taylor Wessing's Equity Capital Markets Group in Germany. Both had jointly advised Emerald Technology Ventures in connection with the first PIPE investment in April 2008.

Advisers Emerald Technology Ventures AG: Taylor Wessing:

Dr. Peter Hellich (Partner, M&A, Private Equity, Munich), Hassan Sohbi (Partner, Corporate, Equity Capital Markets, Frankfurt) (joint lead), Manuel Frieß (Associate, Corporate, Equity Capital Markets, Frankfurt), Maria Weiers (Associate, M&A, Private Equity, Düsseldorf).

Advisers Schmack Biogas AG:

Dr. Mario Weiss (Inhouse)

Dr. Hoimar von Ditfurth (Gleiss Lutz, Frankfurt)

Englische Fassung: Taylor Wessing ist eine der führenden Wirtschaftskanzleien in Europa mit deutschen Büros in Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg und München. Weitere Büros bestehen in Brüssel, Cambridge, Dubai, London und Paris sowie Repräsentanzen in Alicante und Shanghai. Insgesamt gehören weltweit rund 650 Berufsträger zu Taylor Wessing.

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