

8 June 2021

## Sustainability: Luther advises Greek ballast water treatment specialist on acquisition of RWO GmbH

**Hamburg – Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft has comprehensively advised the Greek company Erma First ESK Engineering Solutions S.A. on the acquisition of RWO GmbH, a German marine water treatment specialist, in a bidding process. Erma First and RWO GmbH together, the companies will offer solutions for more environmentally friendly shipping in the future.**

RWO is the global market leader in the treatment of oily wastewater on ships. With the acquisition of RWO, Erma First consolidates its position as one of the global market leaders for ballast water treatment systems (BWTS).

By 2024, all internationally operating shipping companies must equip their ships with special purification systems for ballast water. These requirements pose challenges for the shipping industry worldwide. "For companies along the water treatment chain, however, this also offers enormous growth opportunities," says Konstantinos Stampedakis, Managing Director at Erma First: "Thanks to Luther's industry expertise, we have gained a proven market specialist in RWO, which is an excellent addition to our portfolio in terms of sustainability goals in the maritime industry."

### **About Erma First**

Erma First, based in Perama/Greece, develops and produces innovative ballast water treatment systems based on the needs of ship owners as well as strict environmental legislation. Erma First systems are certified and have received several awards for their technological

performance over the years. Erma First is a leading player in the global market for BWTS.

### **About RWO GmbH**

RWO GmbH is one of the global market leaders in the development and manufacture of high-quality technologies for water treatment on board ships and offshore installations. RWO's product portfolio includes the manufacture of systems for the treatment of drinking and process water as well as for the prevention of water pollution – for example by oily wastewater or ballast water. The head office is located in Bremen.

### **For Erma First:**

Luther, Corporate/M&A: Daniel Fehling, LL.M. (Lead Partner), Dr Joachim Heinemann (Senior Associate).

Luther, Commercial & Distribution Law, Product Liability / Product Compliance: Dr Christoph von Burgsdorff, LL.M. (Partner), Franz Kauer, LL.M. (Associate)

Luther, Employment Law: Sandra Sfinis (Senior Associate)

Luther, Data Protection Law: Dr Kay Oelschlägel (Partner), Dominik Menhaj (Senior Associate)

Luther, Tax Law: Ulrich Siegemund (Partner), Ramona Hubracht, LL.M. (Senior Associate)

Luther, Antitrust Law (Merger control): Dr Helmut Janssen, LL.M. (Partner)

### **For the seller of RWO:**

Görg, Dr. Frank Evers (Lead Partner)

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### **Brief profile Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH**

Luther is a leading German commercial law firm that offers comprehensive legal and tax advice. The full-service law firm employs over 420 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented in ten German economic hubs as well as with ten of its own international offices in key investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia. Its clients include 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. Luther is a founding member of unyer ([www.unyer.com](http://www.unyer.com)), a global organisation of leading professional services firms that cooperate exclusively with each other.

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. All of Luther's lawyers and tax advisers have a solid understanding of interdisciplinary matters and a wealth of experience in collaborating on complex tasks. Luther was named "Law Firm of the Year 2019" by the German legal publisher JUVE. Further information is available at: [www.luther-lawfirm.com](http://www.luther-lawfirm.com)

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