



RKH advises the shareholders of the Hamburg-based telecommunications company willy.tel on the entry of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and a strategic partnership for the citywide fiber optic expansion in Hamburg

16 July 2024

Raschke von Knobelsdorff Heiser (RKH) advised the shareholders of the Hamburg-based telecommunications company willy.tel GmbH (willy.tel) on the sale of a 49.9% stake to the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg (FHH). The investment was made via HGV Hamburger Gesellschaft für Vermögens- und Beteiligungsmanagement mbH (HGV), the Hamburg city's group holding company belonging to the financial authorities, in which many public and in some cases also private companies of the FHH are already bundled.

willy.tel, a family-run, medium-sized Hamburg company, is one of the leading fiber optic telecommunications companies in Hamburg. willy.tel has a substantial fiber optic infrastructure and supplies around 150,000 fiber optic connections in the city. It is therefore a suitable partner for realizing the FHH's goals for the expansion of fiber optics in the Hanseatic city.

The share purchase and transfer agreement has been notarized on June 19, 2024, and its completion is subject to the usual conditions precedent, in particular approval by the German Federal Cartel Office.

willy.tel and its shareholders were advised by RKH partners Dr. Thorsten Raschke and Dr. Dominik Ziegenhahn (both Corporate/M&A) as well as Of Counsel Prof. Dr. Christian Möller (Tax). A team led by Dr. Johanna Kübler, partner at the Frankfurt law firm Commeo, was involved in the merger control and antitrust law aspects. Dr. Thorben Klopp, partner in the Hamburg office of Pusch Wahlig, advised on employment law issues and a team led by KNPZ partner Dr. Kai-Uwe Plath advised on IP, IT and data protection. HGV was advised by a team led by Dr. Mark Hoenike, partner in the Hamburg office of Taylor Wessing.

Background

RKH is a renowned corporate/M&A law firm based in Hamburg, which was founded in 2005 as a spin-off from Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. The firm focuses on advising German and foreign clients on complex corporate law issues, corporate transactions and litigation. The firm's clients include well-known family businesses, German and international industrial, commercial and real estate companies, private equity/venture capital investors and family offices, as well as banks and other financial service providers. Further information can be found on the Internet at www.rkh-law.de.

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