

PRESS RELEASE

Schlecht und Partner advises British railway company Go-Ahead on sale of German group to ÖBB

Stuttgart/Munich, 12.10.2023: <u>Schlecht und Partner</u> has advised the British <u>Go-Ahead</u> <u>Group</u> on the acquisition of <u>Go-Ahead Verkehrsgesellschaft Deutschland GmbH</u> and all its German group companies by <u>ÖBB-Personenverkehr AG</u>. The purchase agreement was notarised today. The closing of the transaction is still subject to competition law approvals. Closing is expected before the end of 2023. The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

Go-Ahead Germany currently has around 1,000 employees and, with its two operating companies in Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg, is an important player in local rail passenger transport in Germany. Go-Ahead operates regional train services with a total of 144 modern electric multiple units on behalf of the state of Baden-Württemberg and the Bavarian Railway Company.

<u>Go-Ahead Baden-Württemberg GmbH</u>, based in Stuttgart, Germany, was founded in February 2017 and has been operating five regional rail routes with over 700 route kilometres since 2019. With around 10 million train kilometres per year, Go-Ahead Baden-Württemberg operates the Stuttgart network with the Remsbahn, Residenzbahn, Filstalbahn and Frankenbahn as well as the Murrbahn.

<u>Go-Ahead Bayern GmbH</u>, based in Augsburg, Germany, was founded in February 2019 and has been offering regional rail services on various routes since 2021, now totalling around 10 million train kilometres per year. Go-Ahead Bavaria began operating the Allgäu electronic network between Munich and Lindau in 2021. In December 2022, the routes of the Augsburg network were added, with services from Augsburg to Munich, from Augsburg to Würzburg, from Augsburg to Aalen, and from Augsburg to Ulm.

Michael Schlecht and Dr. Benjamin S. Cortez from Schlecht und Partner advised The Go-Ahead Group in tax matters on the transaction.

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Other advisors to Go-Ahead Holding Limited:

Friedrich Graf von Westphalen & Partner, lead partner Dr. Alexander Hartmann (Legal Services)

Klaus-Magnus Junginger, demps & partner (M&A Advisory Services)

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About Schlecht und Partner

Schlecht und Partner is a team of expert accountants, auditors and tax advisors with offices in Stuttgart and Munich. With over 25 years of experience, Schlecht und Partner bundles different specializations and forms a powerful team in complex consulting assignments. Our partnership is based on many years of cooperation and a common understanding of the needs of up-to-date client support and project consulting. For further information, please visit <u>www.schlecht-partner.de</u>.