

PRESS RELEASE

**bpv Hügel advises IAG on acquisition of NIKI in Austria**

*bpv Hügel advised IAG, International Consolidated Airlines Group, London, and a subsidiary of Vueling Airlines S.A., Barcelona, on the acquisition of significant assets of the insolvent NIKI Luftfahrt GmbH, Vienna.*

**Vienna, 3 January 2018.** Following Lufthansa's withdrawal from its proposed acquisition of NIKI Luftfahrt GmbH for antitrust reasons, IAG entered the bidder process set up by Prof. Dr. Lucas Flöther as preliminary insolvency administrator over the assets of NIKI, to acquire assets of the insolvent NIKI.

On 29 December 2017, a Vienna-based subsidiary of Vueling Airlines S.A. entered into an agreement to acquire assets including up to fifteen aircraft and a package of attractive take-off and landing rights (slots), including Vienna, Dusseldorf, Munich, Palma de Mallorca and Zurich.

The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions such as EC competition approval.

IAG was advised by external legal advisers at bpv Hügel (Austria) and Luther (Germany).

**For IAG / Vueling:**

**bpv Hügel Rechtsanwälte GmbH:**

Dr. Elke Napokoj, LL.M. (Lead Partner, M&A/Corporate, Vienna)

Mag. Stefan Gaug, LL.M. (Partner, M&A/Corporate, Vienna)

Dr. Michaela Pelinka, LL.M. (Partner, M&A/Corporate, Vienna)

Dr. Bernhard Schatz (Partner, Insolvency Law, Baden)

DDr. Christian F. Schneider (Partner, Air Traffic Law, Vienna)

**Luther Rechtsanwalts GmbH:**

Dr. Andreas Kloyer und Susanna Fuchsbrunner, LL.M. (Lead Partner, M&A, Munich/Frankfurt, Susanna Fuchsbrunner also Air Traffic Law),

Andrea Metz, LL.M. (Partner, Insolvency Law/Corporate, Frankfurt),

Dr. Helmut Janssen, LL.M. (Partner, Cartel Law, Brussels),

Dr. Christian Rodorff, LL.M. (Partner, M&A, Munich)

**For Prof. Dr. Lucas Flöther as preliminary insolvency administrator over the assets of NIKI Luftfahrt GmbH:**

Freshfields (Vienna, Frankfurt, Berlin)

**About bpv Hügel**

bpv Hügel Rechtsanwälte GmbH is one of Austria's leading law firms. The firm is frequently called upon in matters that require specialized legal knowledge, an understanding of commercial matters and extensive experience. The full-service law firm is represented in Austria with offices in Vienna, Mödling and Baden. bpv Hügel operates an office in Brussels and is also member of the alliance "bpv Hügel" with law firms in Bratislava, Bucharest, Budapest and Prague.

**Contact**

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