

# WILHELM

RECHTSANWÄLTE

Press release of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

## **Wilhelm advises Smart Holding on acquisition of Ukrainian Bank Forum**

Düsseldorf/Kiev, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012. The law firm Wilhelm advised Ukrainian investment group Smart Holding on the purchase of Public Joint Stock Company (PJSC) Bank Forum from Commerzbank AG.

A sale and purchase agreement regarding Commerzbank's stake in PJSC Bank Forum of approximately 96 per cent was signed by the contract partners on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2012, in Kiev. The transaction is still subject to the approval of the regulatory authorities.

With about 500,000 clients and more than 100 branches, PJSC Bank Forum is one of the largest banks in the Ukraine for private and corporate customers. Commerzbank held the majority stake in the bank since 2008.

Lars Winkler and Dr. Friedrich Isenbart of the Wilhelm practice group Corporate/M&A advised on the drafting and negotiation of the sale and purchase agreement in the Ukraine and Germany in cooperation with the Ukrainian law firm Engarde.

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### **About Wilhelm:**

The law firm "Wilhelm Partnerschaft von Rechtsanwälten" specializes in insurance, liability and corporate. With twelve lawyers Wilhelm advises international and national corporates, public corporations and mid-sized companies as well as their board members. In 2011 Wilhelm was awarded "Law Firm of the Year for Insurance Law" in Germany by JUVE. Internationally, the law firm cooperates with Clausen Miller. With more than 200 experienced lawyers and offices among others in Düsseldorf, Chicago, New York, London, Paris, Rome, Brussels and Shanghai, the cooperation offers the expertise to solve cross-border liability and cover disputes as well as international M&A-transactions and major projects.

[www.wilhelm-rae.de/en](http://www.wilhelm-rae.de/en)

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