Magenta creates the largest Austrian private fibre optic network partnership with legal assistance of Wolf Theiss

Vienna, 25 August 2022 - Austrian leading telecommunications operator Magenta relied on the legal advice of Wolf Theiss regarding the onboarding of its Co-investor and Joint Venture partner Meridiam with respect to the role out and financing of a high-speed fibre broadband network. The EUR 1 billion investment will providemore than 650,000 buildings with high-speed FTTH ("Fibre to the Home") internet connections.

Wolf Theiss advised the Austrian leading high-speed broadband operator Magenta on all legal aspects regarding the set up of its Joint Venture with renowned European investor Meridiam, which involved advising on antitrust law as well as public funding, regulatory aspects and the set up of data privacy & compliance systems.

The newly established Joint Venture between Magenta and Meridiam will build regional and local high-speed fibre broadband networks outside of urban areas in the upcoming six years – linking approximately 650,000 buildings to the network. Construction is scheduled to begin this year.

This project involved several Wolf Theiss practice groups – including corporate law, banking and finance, competition law, public law and employment law. Under the co-lead of Wolf Theiss partners Andreas Schmid (Projects) and Christian Mikosch (Corporate/ M&A), further members of the core team involved were partners Roland Marko (IT & IP) and Günter Bauer (Competition Antitrust), counsel Paulina Pomorski (IT & IP), senior associates Gregor Grablowitz (Corporate/M&A), Harald Strahberger (Regulatory & Procurement) and Markus Aigner (Banking & Finance).

"Our experience in similar projects enabled us to provide full scale advice to Magenta creating a unique oportunity for the Austrian market", commented Wolf Theiss partner Andreas Schmid the highly complex project. "Our combined teams were again successful in providing seamless advice in this ambitous project", added Wolf Theiss partner Christian Mikosch.

The Joint Venture between Magenta and Meridiam is subject to approval by the EU Commission. The corresponding competition procedure has already started and a conclusion is expected by the end of 2022.

About Wolf Theiss

Founded in 1957, Wolf Theiss is one of the leading law firms in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe (CEE/SEE). We have built our reputation on unrivalled local knowledge which is supported by strong international capabilities. With more than 360 lawyers in 13

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countries, over 80% of the firm's work involves cross-border representation of international clients.

Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine, Wolf Theiss represents local and international industrial, trade and service companies, as well as banks and insurance companies. Combining law and business, Wolf Theiss develops comprehensive and constructive solutions on the basis of legal, fiscal and business know-how.

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