

Press-release

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Grant Thornton (Ukraine) announces significant expansion of its business

By this we announce the accession to Grant Thornton (Ukraine) of Interbilanz (Ukraine) Group of companies, that have been for many years providing audit and consulting services in the Ukrainian market to companies with business connected to Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Starting October 1, 2019 the following companies will be operating under the 'Grant Thornton' brand in Ukraine:

• in the field of consulting, law, HR and outsourcing:

"Grant Thornton LLC" and "German Desk Grant Thornton LLC"

• in the field of audit and related services:

"Grant Thornton Legis LLC" and "German Desk Grant Thornton Audit LLC"

Grant Thornton (Ukraine) is a member-firm of the global network of Grant Thornton, that has been for more than 100 years providing audit, consulting and legal services in 135 countries, with more than 53,000 employees. In Ukraine, the company currently employs 120 people.

Interbilanz Group of companies is represented in Ukraine by three legal entities, located in Kyiv and Lviv, employing 25 people. Interbilanz belongs to Grant Thornton Austria, one of the leading professional service firms in Austria (200 employees).

The expansion of the Grant Thornton network in Ukraine will increase the volume of services, provided by Grant Thornton in the market of audit and consulting services by more than 40% and will consolidate best practices, experience and highly qualified staff. In addition, it will enhance industry specialization and promote high quality services, which take into account the specificity and the regional background of the clients' business.

According to Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine, President of Grant Thornton (Ukraine) Oleksandr Chalyi: "We have been working to complete this deal for several years and welcome the partners and specialists of Interbilanz (Ukraine). Given the fact, that investments from Germany, Austria and Switzerland together account for 13% of total foreign investments in Ukraine, Interbilanz (Ukraine) accessing Grant Thornton will substantially increase our portfolio of German-speaking clients and create the largest German desk in Ukraine for audit and consulting services. We have ambitions to make Grant Thornton one of the best advisors for Germanspeaking investors and businessmen in Ukraine."

Wilfried Serles, the new Senior Partner of Grant Thornton in charge of the German desk, adds: "We are proud to be a member of the Grant Thornton

family in Ukraine. Given our professional expertise and experience, the strength of the 'Grant Thornton' brand and the opportunities in the Ukrainian market, we are convinced to win additional German-speaking clients and investors for Ukraine."