

## PRESS INFORMATION

## Petrus Advisers dissolve the conwert management syndicate

London/Vienna, Februrary 21, 2011 – Effective immediately, Petrus Advisers announces the dissolution of the former conwert management syndicate. The syndicate was created in 2007, when brokerage and facility management companies previously owned by a part of the former management team were transferred to conwert in exchange for shares in the company.

Petrus Advisers has finalised the purchase of all locked shares held by Günter Kerbler, Gabriele Kerbler, K5 Beteiligungs GmbH, Johann Kowar, Kowar KEG, Friedrich Scheck, S8 Privatstiftung, Helmut Hardt, Alt&Kelber Holding, Walter Leitner, Seiller-Tarbuk Liegenschaftsverwaltung, Thomas Rohr, Michael Seiller-Tarbuk, Jürgen Kelber, Ursula Kelber and JFK Vermögensverwaltungs GmbH. With this change in ownership, the syndicate has been dissolved.

Petrus Advisers partner and Chairman of the Board of conwert, Johannes Meran, said, "The transfer of the service divisions to the own company and the associated agreements have led to a number of disputes with leading shareholder representatives in the past. With the dissolution of this syndicate, we start a new era for conwert, focused solely on our original purpose: Creating value for all shareholders."

In autumn 2007, conwert shares were acquired by the management of conwert and ECO Business during a voluntary takeover bid, reinvesting partially the proceeds of an earlier sale of brokerage/facility management divisions to conwert. These shares were subjected to a lockup agreement. Before its termination, the so-called conwert management syndicate was composed of approximately seven percent of all shares and would have terminated by the end of 2012. The syndicate foresaw joint voting and general coordination amongst the group.

Petrus Advisers managing partner Klaus Umek commented: "Our ownership in conwert will outlive the lockup by a number years. We are happy to dynamically pursue our engagement without any inherited issues."

## **About Petrus Advisers**

Petrus Advisers LLP, with offices in London and Bratislava, is an entrepreneurial investment company focusing on equity investments of more than EUR 20 million in the German-speaking and Central and Eastern European regions. In Austria, Petrus Advisers holds an 18%-stake (core shareholder) in one of the country's major real estate companies, conwert Immobilien Invest SE.

The company was founded in October 2009 by Klaus Umek and Johannes Meran and operates a series of alternative investment vehicles for liquid event-driven and control investing.

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