

## PRESS RELEASE

### **BF.direkt AG Recruits Three New Staff**

- Tobias Gabat to reinforce sales team at Stuttgart office
- Two high-skilled professionals hired for support functions of loan agency (Anke Leibbrand) and accounting (Andrea Witke)
- Business of subsidiary BF.solutions as loan agent and collateral trustee to be expanded
- Going forward, BF Group plans to keep hiring

**Stuttgart, 12 April 2021** – BF.direkt AG, a specialist for real estate finance, is reinforcing several of its units with three new experts. By doing so, the company is laying the foundation for the growth trajectory of the entire group over the next five years.

Tobias Gabat (31) was appointed as Director Real Estate Finance of BF.direkt AG. Together with Patrick Remmele, the other Director Real Estate Finance, Tobias Gabat will assume the management of regional accounts, most of them representing developers, condominium conversion developers, contractors and commercial real estate investors. His spheres of activity will include the structuring and brokering of commercial real estate financing arrangements and the associated consultancy. Before joining the company, Tobias Gabat completed a two-year stint with Südwesbank, where his responsibilities included the corporate and real estate loan portfolio management, sourcing, and risk management, among others. Previous career stops include KPMG Stuttgart, Patrimonium Asset Management in Switzerland, and EnBW in Karlsruhe.

Another new recruit transferring from Südwesbank AG is Anke Leibbrand (43), who will join the subsidiary BF.solutions as its Director Loan Agency & Trustee Services. Within the conglomerate, BF.solutions takes care of the collateral trustee functions in the context of financing arrangements involving in-house debt funds. Going forward, the entity will gradually make its service spectrum available to third parties, e. g. within the framework of promissory note loans or syndicated loans arranged by the BF Group. Anke Leibbrand previously spent five years with Südwesbank AG, serving as joint lead manager and collateral trustee in the structured finance agency unit. Before that, she occupied comparable positions with LBBW and Deutsche Bank AG for an overall period of 14 years.

The third person hired is Andrea Witke (52) who will reinforce the internal accounting service centre of the BF Group in the role of accounting manager. In this role, she will be responsible for the financial accounting of BF.direkt AG and all member companies of the BF Group.

Francesco Fedele, CEO of BF.direkt AG, elaborated on the expansion of his company's human resources: "By hiring these three high-skilled professionals, we are preparing the ground for the future growth of the BF Group over the next five years. I'm very glad we managed to win these seasoned experts for our company."

Manuel Köppel, CFO of BF.direkt AG, added: "Aside from the need to reinforce our sales team, it is highly important to strengthen the support functions, and to align the entire company with our plans for the future and the intended growth trajectory. BF.solutions in particular is of great significance for the group's business model because it helps us demonstrate our advanced lending competence while also helping to enhance the value-creation in-house."

*Use of the attached image material is permitted solely for the purpose of covering the company BF.direkt AG. Please be sure to cite the following source: BF.direkt AG. Editing of the photographs is limited to the scope of normal image processing.*

#### **Press Contact**

**c/o RUECKERCONSULT GmbH**

Daniel Sohler

Tel.: +49 30 28 44 987 49

E-mail: [sohler@rueckerconsult.de](mailto:sohler@rueckerconsult.de)

#### **Kontakt BF.direkt AG**

Manuel Köppel, CFO

Tel.: +49 711 22 55 44 136

E-mail: [M.Koeppel@bf-direkt.de](mailto:M.Koeppel@bf-direkt.de)

#### **About BF.direkt**

BF.direkt AG is an independent specialist for the funding of residential and commercial real estate projects. As one of Germany's leading financing advisers, the company develops innovative funding strategies and finds suitable finance partners for them. BF.direkt is familiar with any financing component available on the market, including debt, equity and mezzanine capital. On occasion, BF.direkt will invest in projects in its own right. Clients of BF.direkt include renowned contractors, property developers, listed property companies, property funds, pension funds and family offices domiciled inside and outside Germany. BF.direkt regularly

arranges lending volumes of more than 1 billion euros a year, thereby facilitating an annual transaction volume of over 1.5 billion euros.