

PRESS RELEASE

Wim Wuyts is the new CEO of rapidly expanding WTS Global

International taxation network signs up more high-profile member firms

Munich, September 1, 2017 - WTS Global, a leading global tax consulting network, is positioning itself for additional international growth by creating a new Chief Executive Officer role. Wim Wuyts, a proven tax expert and leader, comes to WTS Global from Bekaert, a Belgian based multinational corporation and global supplier of steel wire for the automotive and construction industries.

In his new role, effective September 1, 2017, Wuyts, a 49 year old Belgian, will be responsible for further expanding the WTS Global network and strengthening ties among the member firms. The new CEO will focus on further development of the existing global service lines and establish new ones in order to further promote the content-based and structural integration of network firms under one umbrella. He will also lead the central management team which provides quality management, knowledge management, business development, marketing and communication support for WTS Global.

Wim Wuyts has more than 20 years of excellent and diverse experience in leading tax functions on a national and international scale. Over the course of his career, in addition to Bekaert, he has worked for the Belgian government, Arthur Andersen, Levi Strauss &Co., Baxter Inc. and Agfa-Gevaert. He has specific expertise in tax-related consultancy for restructurings and M&A transactions. In addition to his significant professional experience, Mr. Wuyts has long been committed to developing future tax leaders, and has established a Tax Leadership Programme offered at the CEDEP campus in Fontainebleau (France) and in Silicon Valley, California (USA).

"The new CEO position will allow us to accelerate the further expansion of WTS Global and offer our clients a truly international tax consulting network which is an alternative to the Big 4" explained Fritz Esterer, Chairman of the Board of WTS Global. "Wim Wuyts is perfect for this new role. He has excellent professional know-how and significant long term experience in leading tax functions on an international scale."

"In addition to the high-quality member firms, WTS Global is also structurally very well positioned. By introducing international service lines in various disciplines such as M&A, transfer pricing and indirect taxation in recent years, the network provides an integrated consultancy approach for cross-border projects", explains Wim Wuyts. "I am very much looking forward to continuing the impressive development of recent years and thus, helping WTS Global to reach the next level."

About WTS Global

With a presence in over 100 countries, WTS Global is one of the world's leading tax consultancy networks. In recent months, more renowned international consultancy firms and partner networks have joined, including LATAXNET.

LATAXNET is the only tax-centric network in Latin America. Its members consist exclusively of award-winning tax law firms which are at the very pinnacle of their respective markets. LATAXNET covers 18 countries in total. The members have a strong handle of the business and legal cultures and communities in their own countries and abroad.

Our other new cooperation partners are: ICON Wirtschaftstreuhand GmbH (Austria), Global Tax Management, Inc. (GTM) (USA), Althaus Consulting (Russia), Atlas Tax Lawyers (Netherlands), AEG & Partners (Cameroon), WTS Tax d.o.o (Slovenia), Sadagah CPA & Consultants (Saudi Arabia).

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