



PRESS INFORMATION

## **Petrus Advisers becomes key shareholder of Conwert**

### **Significant transaction in the Central European real estate sector**

London/Vienna, April 29, 2010 – Funds advised by London-based entrepreneurial investment company Petrus Advisers will acquire 17% of the voting rights of Conwert Immobilien Invest SE, a leading residential real estate company, listed on the Vienna Stock Exchange. This complex friendly transaction - executed in cooperation with management and the company founder - mobilises one of the biggest private equity commitments in Austria. Petrus Advisers will become the largest shareholder in the company.

Conwert is a leading residential real estate company with top market positions in Germany, Austria and Central and Eastern Europe. Petrus Advisers also acquires shares from the family trust of industrialist Hans Peter Haselsteiner, founder and CEO of Strabag SE.

Petrus Advisers structured a highly complex series of transactions utilising hedge funds and private equity technologies in an all-equity financed transaction, boosting Conwert's profit potential with earnings accretion from day one.

Petrus Advisers' Managing Partner Klaus Umek comments: "Conwert is the pearl among the real estate companies listed in the region. We see it as an ideal defensive investment in the persistently volatile environment." Johannes Meran, Partner at Petrus Advisers, emphasises the strategic cooperation with Conwert's founder and top management: "Together with Guenter Kerbler, Johann Kowar and Thomas Rohr we will ensure the successful development in the interest of all shareholders."

### **About Petrus Advisers**

Petrus Advisers LLP, headquartered in London, is an entrepreneurial investment company focusing on equity investments of more than Euro 20 million in the German-speaking and Central and Eastern European regions. The company was founded in October 2009 by Klaus Umek and Johannes Meran.

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