

# HISTORY OF FORIS AG

# 1996 • Founding of FORIS AG

The FORIS AG was founded on the initiative of the attorney Lothar Müller-Güldemeister.

# 1998 • Market launch of litigation financing

Together with Dr Christian Rollmann on the Management Board, Müller-Güldemeister introduces the FORIS-invented commercial litigation financing to the German legal market in 1998. For the first time ever, claimants could draw on the support of a financial services provider with a legal background to enforce their claims in court.

### 1999 • IPO of FORIS AG

FORIS AG goes public on the German stock exchange in Frankfurt (WKN 577 580). First offices in Berlin and Bonn and later in Frankfurt, Munich and New York.

# 2000 FORIS translation service and FORIS attorney directory

FORIS AG expands its portfolio to include the sale of shelf companies, the FORIS translation service and the FORIS attorney directory.

### 2001 • FORATIS AG founded

The sale of shelf companies grows rapidly. FORIS AG establishes a separate subsidiary - FORATIS AG - for this business segment.

## 2002 • Headquarters in Bonn

In mid-2002, Lothar Müller-Güldemeister resigns from the Management Board and Dr Christian Rollmann takes over as sole Executive Officer of FORIS AG and the sole site of the company is now in Bonn. FORIS AG acquires the building of the former Hamburg state representation and moves in next to the headquarters of Deutsche Post DHL, Deutsche Telekom as well as the UN campus in the former government district.

### 2006 • Purchase of GO AHEAD

In October 2006, FORIS AG acquires GO AHEAD Limited. Founded in 2003 by Michael Silberberger, GO AHEAD is the market leader in the founding and sale of English limited companies in Germany. Thus far, Go AHEAD has founded over 41,000 limited liability companies and supported nearly just as many founders in fulfilling of their ongoing reporting obligations to English authorities. In addition, the founding service provider offers informative and practical seminars on English limited liability companies and German corporations.

### 2009 • Support in founding a company

In addition to limited companies, Go Ahead has also offered support in founding German entrepreneurial companies since (UG's) 2009.

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

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### 2010 • Relaunch GO AHEAD - the founders

In March 2010, the subsidiary GO AHEAD significantly expands its range of services for the founding and sale of limiteds and German entrepreneurial companies (UG) and relaunches on the market with a new focus. GO AHEAD thus offers extensive services and products beyond the initial founding phase.

# 2010 • Brand launch of FORIS lingua

After ten years, the FORIS translation service becomes FORIS lingua. With its new brand name, the translation service provider positions itself in the market as an experienced specialist for legal translations in the areas of law and economics.

# 2012 • GO AHEAD with innovation for start-up entrepreneurs

By setting up a wizard for founding legal companies, GO AHEAD is the first to offer a tool for generating Articles of Association for GmbH and UG start-ups. Start-up entrepreneurs can click through a template for their Articles of Association, which can be customised for any important content.

# 2013 • FORIS litigation costs calculator launched for the first time as an app

With an app version of the litigation costs calculator, the online calculator can now be used on the go. At the same time, it also contains an innovation: With a built-in comparison calculator, the costs or benefits of a settlement can be easily calculated.

### 2016 • Market launch of FORIS monetisation

By offering the monetisation of disputed claims, FORIS becomes even more attractive to companies when it comes to litigation financing. With FORIS monetisation, we support the case and upon request assume the enforcement of the disputed claim. At the same time, the company can immediately cash-out a portion of the claim.

# 2016 • Restructuring of the FORIS brand

FORIS AG consolidates its services under one brand: FORIS. These include litigation financing, shelf companies (formerly FORATIS) and FORIS monetisation of disputed claims. This move is accompanied by a new corporate design that also clearly joins together our services we provide you.

As such, FORIS AG is one of a kind in Germany. In its three core business segments, FORIS litigation financing, FORIS monetisation and FORIS shelf companies, as well as founding and supporting services for start-ups of English limiteds and German entrepreneurial companies through our subsidiary GO AHEAD, FORIS AG is among the leading service providers in this part of the legal market.

### 2018 • FORIS - DSW Cooperation

FORIS AG has concluded an agreement on cooperation with Deutsche Schutzvereinigung für Wertpapierbesitz (DSW), Germany's leading association for private investors. Among other things, this cooperation provides that FORIS as a litigation financer assumes the costs of legal disputes in return for a performance-related revenue share within the scope of the agreed exclusivity. In addition to financing, both parties have agreed on further services designed to provide investors at an early stage with information about losses incurred through or threatened by investment products, and about the possibilities for keeping litigation expense risks to a minimum.