

Press release

Tipp24 SE: ECJ declares State Treaty on Games of Chance illegal

- German gambling monopoly toppled
- Tipp24 SE aims to resume business in Germany

(Hamburg, 8 September 2010) According to a verdict announced today by the European Court of Justice (ECJ), Germany's State Treaty on Games of Chance (Glücksspiel-Staatsvertrag – GlüStV) contravenes the basic European rights of freedom.

The judges ruled that the German regulations were not coherent and consistent with the targets set by the federal states themselves, in particular the combating of gambling addiction, and thus contravened European law.

The ECJ also stated that the German state lottery companies were running extensive advertising campaigns with the aim of maximising their own profit. Moreover, much more dangerous automated games were allowed without any particular restrictions and the respective statutory regulations had even been liberalised.

It was also noted by the ECJ that the restrictions of the GlüStV which contravened European law could no longer be applied even on a temporary basis until a new regulation in line with EU law had been found.

Dr. Hans Cornehl, CEO of Tipp24 SE, states: "The ECJ ruling has fully confirmed our legal viewpoint. The State Treaty on Games of Chance is illegal and not applicable – a victory in all aspects. We expect that we will soon be able to resume our business of brokering state lotteries in Germany – a business we successfully conducted until late 2008."

About Tipp24 SE: Tipp24 SE was founded in September 1999 and holds equity interests in a number of companies in Spain, Italy and the UK, which enable participation in lottery-based games via the Internet, especially via the websites www.ventura24.es, www.giochi24.it, www.mylotto24.co.uk and www.tipp24.com. In Germany, Tipp24 Entertainment GmbH operates the games platform www.tipp24games.de. From its foundation to the end of 2008, Tipp24 SE brokered tickets worth over 1.5 billion euros to the state lottery companies – in recent years over 330 million euros annually. Shares in Tipp24 SE have been traded in the Prime Standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since 2005. In June 2009, the company was admitted to the SDAX index.

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