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**Natalia Wilke Joins SCHNEIDER GROUP as Partner, Legal & Tax Practice and Head of Saint Petersburg office**

**Saint Petersburg, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – SCHNEIDER GROUP is pleased to announce that Natalia Wilke, a lawyer with 20+ years' experience in corporate, commercial and construction law, joins SCHNEIDER GROUP as the Partner for the Legal & Tax Practice and Head of Saint Petersburg office starting from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Natalia will also bring on board a team of lawyers to strengthen the Company's Legal & Tax Practice.

With a focus on corporate, commercial and construction law, Natalia has been providing legal support for numerous major international real estate and industrial projects in St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Oblast. Bringing legal consultancy experience of over 20 years, Natalia arrives from the international law firm Beiten Burkhardt, where she has been a partner heading the office in St. Petersburg since 2007.

Along with Natalia, her team of lawyers will further strengthen SCHNEIDER GROUP's Saint Petersburg Office. These include Anna Afanasyeva, a well-known lawyer, tax advisor and Partner of Beiten Burkhardt and Sergey Bogatyrev, a lawyer with over 15 years' legal consulting experience. For several years Anna has been heading the Legal and Tax Subcommittee of the Association of European Businesses in St. Petersburg. She will take on the position of the Associate Director Legal and Tax at SCHNEIDER GROUP Saint Petersburg, whereas Sergey will join the team as a Senior Legal Expert primarily specialized in M&A, corporate & commercial law and in dispute resolution.

"I have known Natalia Wilke for more than a decade and value her not only as a professional lawyer and team player, but also for her energetic and open minded character as well as her very high level of client focus. Natalia Wilke and her team fit perfectly into the SCHNEIDER GROUP corporate identity", says Ulf Schneider, President & Founder of SCHNEIDER GROUP.

"With the arrival of Natalia Wilke and her team, the already strong Legal and Tax practice of SCHNEIDER GROUP will receive a major boost and will operate as a single unit across Russia and other countries in CEE and CIS which we serve. Additionally we thoroughly welcome our increased presence in St. Petersburg and the North-western Region", comments Philip Gudgeon, CEO of SCHNEIDER GROUP.

"My team and I are looking forward to being a part of SCHNEIDER GROUP and strengthening its Russian Legal and Tax Practice, which already counts more than 25 experts. Thanks to SCHNEIDER GROUP's strong focus on the CIS and particularly the Russian market I see many new perspectives for providing our existing and new clients with full-service support covering not only legal issues, but also all stages of doing business in Russia. With the highest quality standards of our services SCHNEIDER GROUP is well positioned to become one of the top players on the Russian legal and consulting market", says Natalia Wilke.

**About SCHNEIDER GROUP:**

SCHNEIDER GROUP has been helping businesses to expand into Russia and the CIS since 2003. Providing expert consulting and first-class business support services, we efficiently guide our customers through the complex process of entering new markets, help them establish branches and subsidiaries that are fully transparent to international management and compliant with local legislation, while our experts offer valuable advice on best practices to optimize processes, mitigate risks, and cut costs.

[www.schneider-group.com](http://www.schneider-group.com)

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