

Public tender procedure for the preselection of the auditor of the financial statements of secunet Security Networks AG for the financial year 2023

- Convenience translation -

As a public interest entity ("**PIE**"), secunet Security Networks AG ("**secunet**") has carried out the procedure for the pre-selection of the auditor in accordance with Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 (hereinafter: "**EU Regulation**").

On 1 August 2022, following detailed discussion, the secunet audit committee decided to initiate a selection process for the 2023 audit in accordance with Article 16 (3) of the EU Regulation in order to ensure the independence of the audit in the future based on the Financial Market Integrity Strengthening Act (FISA).

For the selection procedure, various auditors and auditing firms, who already had experience in auditing PIEs in a stock exchange index and met the required independence criteria, were invited to participate in the procedure. After the detailed tender document had been made available, the participating auditors and auditing firms were invited to submit questions regarding the tender and submit their bids within a submission period. After evaluation of the bids received, two auditing firms, BDO AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft and Ebner Stolz GmbH & Co. KG, were invited to personal presentation meetings.

After the presentation meetings, the members of the audit committee discussed the impressions gained from the candidates with members of the management board and certain secunet employees on the basis of a prepared evaluation matrix. After comparing the two offers, BDO AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft was particularly convincing with the qualification of the auditing team, the organization of the auditing procedure, the communication strategy and the fee calculation. As a result, the audit committee decided to propose to the supervisory board that BDO AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft be appointed as auditor for the 2023 financial year. The Supervisory Board followed this proposal.

The selection process was accompanied by KPMG AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft as an advisor, whereby the release of the documents and the decisions were always made by secunet or the audit committee.