

Translation of a Press release of FAS AG

## **Strong team – DKMS and FAS AG successfully complete the joint “SAP 2.0” project**

Stuttgart/Tübingen, 3 July 2017 **On 28 June 2017, approx. 35 employees of DKMS gemeinnützige GmbH (DKMS) and FAS AG celebrated the successful completion of the “SAP 2.0” project at the DKMS headquarters at Schloss Kreßbach in Tübingen. Following more than 19 months of intensive project work in a roughly 40-person team at the Dresden, Tübingen, Cologne, Warsaw, London and New York sites, the design and implementation of the new SAP system has been successful. DKMS – with the help of the financial advisory firm FAS AG – has thus laid the foundations for the harmonisation of accounting and controlling, increased transparency and efficiency and a future-proof IT strategy restructure.**

Every 15 minutes, someone in Germany is diagnosed with leukaemia. Globally, that increases to every 35 seconds. A major challenge for a charitable organisation like DKMS which also wants to play an increasingly international role. A reason to invest in professional and future-proof systems – particularly when it comes to financial organisation.

“Since it was founded in 1991, DKMS has set itself a massive challenge – to beat leukaemia worldwide. In addition to gaining well-informed, engaged donors of stem cells and money and an unconditional focus on patient well-being, this also requires the provision of high-quality reporting information in large volumes as the basis for decision-making and information processes,” says Sirko Geist, CFO at DKMS gGmbH.

The joint consulting project began at the end of 2015 with an analysis phase. This was intended to demonstrate the potential for optimisation in finance and accounting and, at the same time, provide key insights for the implementation project. In addition to local circumstances at the various locations, the particular regulatory requirements for non-profit organisations also had to be taken into account.

Key elements of the main project phase were the introductions of a unified SAP system, the restructuring of controlling and the transition of operational valuation in SAP to international financial reporting standards (IFRS). With standardised reporting in accordance with the IFRS, the international DKMS sites should deliver controlling figures which can be compared across national borders in the future. The SAP New General Ledger (NewGL) functionality is used for parallel illustration of the respective local binding accounting standards and the IFRS. The SAP CO and SAP PS modules, designed to offer increased transparency regarding the source and use of funding in the various organisations of the DKMS family for the finance departments and people responsible for budgets, form the heart of the restructured controlling approach.

“With the introduction of IFRS across all sites as standardised and transparent reporting standards, DKMS is a trailblazer among charitable organisations. Together with our long-term SAP partner, PIKON Deutschland AG, we have succeeded in building a system which takes DKMS’ special requirements as a professionally and

internationally active non-profit organisation into account,” says Sebastian Braun, project manager at FAS AG.

The materials management module (SAP MM) was introduced at two German sites for procurement, inventory management and audit departments. A plan is in place for a successive roll-out to other DKMS sites abroad. Order management and billing are handled in a standardised manner through the SAP sales module (SAP SD) in the wake of the new implementation. The SAP system is incorporated into the re-structured DKMS IT system landscape through interfaces with CRM and medical systems.

While the sites in Germany and Poland have already been working with the new system since 1 January 2017, the roll-out to Great Britain and the USA occurred on 1 April 2017.

“Even during the tender process, FAS won us over with their competent demeanour, paired with strong customer focus. We ultimately opted for FAS, a decision that we had no regrets whatsoever about throughout the project. In particular, FAS’ strong customer focus and high flexibility made a crucial contribution to effectively supporting our organisation in critical project phases. For me, the crucial key to the timely and successful completion of the project,” Heiko Mertens, Head of Accounting and Controlling at DKMS gGmbH is thankful. “We now have a future-proof foundation for our finance department and the tasks look easier.”

“We are delighted to be able to celebrate the successful completion of our project together with DKMS today and are proud to have thus made a small contribution to this important charitable work. Over the past months, we have become part of the DKMS family and will continue to be at their side in the future both as an advisor and as a member of the 1,000 club,” Jürgen Diehm, partner responsible for clients at FAS AG, sums up the project completion event at Schloss Kreßbach.

### **About the DKMS family**

DKMS gemeinnützige GmbH seeks and connects stem cell donors for people with leukaemia and other diseases of the haematopoietic system. With more than 7 million people registered worldwide and more than 63,000 stem cell transplants made possible, it is the largest international stem cell donor database. With the aim of collectively saving even more lives, DKMS has been increasingly involved in research since 2013 and is also expanding its work to other countries. To date, in addition to its sites in Germany, it is also represented in the USA, Poland, Spain and Great Britain. More international sites are in the pipeline.

### **About FAS AG**

FAS AG is an independent and innovative solution provider for focused consulting, hands-on operational support and efficient outsourcing for the Finance area of companies as well as for valuation and transactional purposes. The company has its headquarters in Stuttgart, with branches in Düsseldorf, Frankfurt am Main, Munich, Leipzig, Zurich and Vienna.