

Press Release: Early contract extension

## **Tobacco company ITG continues partnership with Hamburg-based INFO AG**

**As a result of an early extension of the existing contract, INFO AG – one of the leading providers of IT consulting and IT outsourcing services – will now continue to operate the global IT systems for the Imperial Tobacco Group (ITG) tobacco company over the next three years. The seven-figure order will fuel further expansion at INFO AG.**

Hamburg, July 20, 2010 – The contract was officially signed by ITG and INFO AG on June 7, 2010: the decision to renew the contract before term was influenced by INFO AG's extensive industry expertise and the companies' 10 years of solid teamwork as equal partners. As a result, the two datacenters operated by INFO AG in Hamburg will continue to provide the most important information technology services required by the international ITG Corporation until the end of 2013.

Thomas Stoek, Director at INFO AG, comments on the early contract renewal: "We are very proud of the trust ITG has placed in our services: it indicates the professionalism of our services and shows we are on the right track. In addition to local mid-sized companies, it is the international requirements of our national clients that enable us to maintain our course of expansion."

Active in the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) segment since 1997, INFO AG has already demonstrated the expertise gained in this sector during the integration of Reemtsma and ALTADIS into ITG (in 2002 and 2008, respectively). In the process, the Hamburg-based IT service provider played a key role in standardizing the application environment.

Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Melchior, Head of Centre of Excellence Supply Chain & IT Germany at ITG, explains the reasons behind the decision: "Our continued partnership with INFO AG results not only from their solid industry expertise, but is also due to their high degree of flexibility when organizing service provision and project work. With INFO AG, we know their consultants will treat us on equal terms – and that's certainly not always the case in the IT industry."