

Wirtschafts Woche

The Professional Klaus Nieding

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In the past twelve years, Nieding has developed the law firm into one of the premier legal consultancies serving capital investors in all their needs. The managing director of the *Land* association of *Deutsche Schutzvereinigung für Wertpapierbesitz e.V.* (DSW, association



for the protection of securities investors) is top of the class wherever listed companies and the course of the discussion at annual general meetings are concerned. He has won

more than thirty of the cases he brought before the Federal Court of Justice, thus paving the way for a stricter application of prospect liability regulations. His greatest successes were achieved in the dispute with the Julius Bär bank, which his client sued for damages due to an investment into one of the funds operated by the infamous Kurt Ochner, and in the evaluation proceedings before the "Spruchstelle" board regarding Massa AG. Moreover, Nieding has currently been retained for one of the largest court cases, entailing a value in dispute of twelve million dollars: he is representing the Texan gas and oil extraction company Moncrief in a suit it has filed against BASF, E.ON and Gazprom. What bothers him is the banking lobby's ability to prevent investor-friendly reforms at every juncture. As early as during the Schröder administration, there had been a bill "that would have finally enabled us to hold corporate boards of management and supervisory boards liable". Following the last elections, the draft bill was trashed.