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EU Commission approves Atle offer

The European Commission has granted its approval for Woodrose Invest AB, a company jointly owned by Ratos AB and 3i Group plc, to acquire control of Atle AB by way of a public bid announced on 19 February 2001.

This satisfies one of the Conditions of the Offer, as stated in the Prospectus.

For further information, please contact:

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Ratos, one of Sweden's oldest and largest private equity companies, is listed on the OM Stockholm Exchange. Ratos's business concept is to

maximise shareholder value through the professional and responsible management of its investments, including an active involvement in the governance of its portfolio companies. The net asset value of Ratos's investments amounts to approximately SEK 10bn. The company's current holdings include Camfil, Capona, Dahl, DataVis, Esselte, Exceed, Q-Labs, Scandic Hotels, Superfos, Telelogic and Telia Overseas.