
P R E S S R E L E A S E 7 December 2001

Hilding Anders acquires Danish bed manufacturer

Ratos's associated company Hilding Anders has acquired the remaining 60 % of Carl Thøgersen A/S, Denmark's largest bed manufacturer. The deal gives Hilding Anders a 100 % stake in the company.

- We are extremely pleased that we were able to complete the acquisition of Denmark's largest bed manufacturer and bring the entire company to Hilding Anders. This acquisition is a natural part of our long-term strategy of expansion in Europe, which accounts for a significant portion of Carl Thøgersen's sales. It feels good that such an innovative and financially strong company is joining our group, says CEO Bengt Adolfsson commenting on the deal.

Carl Thøgersen is a long-established company with broad competence and great expertise in bed manufacture. The company has an efficient production facility and its customers include Jysk. The company's head office and production are located in Hurup Thy in Jutland. Carl Thøgersen's CEO is Anna Thøgersen, and she will continue to hold this position.

Hilding Anders is Europe's largest bed manufacturer. As a result of the acquisition of Carl Thøgersen, annual sales will rise by SEK 285m to total approximately SEK 3.5 billion. The acquisition will increase the number of employees by 135 to a total of 2,135. Hilding Anders is represented today in 13 countries in Europe.

Ratos's holding in Hilding Anders is 27 %.

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Ratos is a listed private equity company. The business concept is to maximise shareholder value over time by investing in, developing and divesting primarily unlisted companies. Ratos thus offers stock market players a unique investment opportunity. The net asset value of Ratos's investments is approximately SEK 9 billion. Ratos's holdings include Arcorus, Atle Industri, Camfil, Capona, Dahl, DataVis, DIAB, Dynal Biotech, Esselte, Exceed, Gadelius KK, Haendig, Haglöfs, Hilding Anders, Hilton Group, HL Display, Industri Kapital, Intervect, Kronans Droghandel, Lindab, Martinsson, Programmera, Q-Labs, Superfos and Telia Overseas.