

Group Communications

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Atlas Copco appoints Rental Service executive

Stockholm, Sweden, December 14, 2001 — Freek Nijdam has been appointed Senior Executive Vice President for the Rental Service business area, effective February 2002. He succeeds Tom Bennett, who retires.

Tom Bennett has headed the business area since it was established. "Following Tom's wish to retire, I have asked Freek Nijdam to take the position as business area executive for Rental Service," says Giulio Mazzalupi, President and CEO of the Atlas Copco Group.

"As a member of Atlas Copco's Executive Committee, Freek has been very involved in the Rental Service development program and will therefore safeguard the continuity, characterized by the need to continue integrating the different business cultures, while improving revenues and enhancing efficiency."

For the past six years, Freek Nijdam, has been Senior Executive Vice President for the Construction and Mining Technique business area (CMT). During this period he has successfully led the business area to its highest operating profit margin ever recorded.

Freek Nijdam has served Atlas Copco since 1970. During his career he has held a number of different positions, including managing director of companies both in Europe and Latin America. Prior to his present position, he was President of the Atlas Copco Applied Compressor and Expander Technique, a division within the Compressor Technique business area.

The search for Freek Nijdam's replacement in the CMT business area is in progress.

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Rental Service is a business area within the Atlas Copco Group with one division Rental Service Corporation. In 2000, revenues were SEK 14 billion. Rental Service Corporation fulfills the rental and sales demands of the construction, industrial/petrochemical, manufacturing, government and homeowner markets in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The Company operates with three well-respected brands: RSC serves the construction market, comprised of heavy equipment and commercial construction, Prime Industrial focuses on the industrial and petrochemical rental

segments, while Prime Energy promotes its oil-free air, generator and temperature control business. More information is available on www.rentalservice.com.

Atlas Copco is an international industrial Group with its head office in Stockholm, Sweden. In 2000, the Group had revenues of SEK 46 billion, with 98 percent of revenues outside Sweden, and more than 26.000 employees. The Group produce and market compressed air equipment and generators, construction and mining equipment, electric and pneumatic tools, assembly systems, and offers related service and equipment rental. More information can be found on the web site: www.atlascopco-group.com.