

## Vinge sees positive signs on the Nordic M&A market!

**Vinge keeps its leading position as the most retained legal advisor in the Nordic region. According to *mergermarket's* publicised ranking of major M&A transactions in the Nordic region during the first nine months of the year Vinge positions itself as number one. In the ranking of all of Europe Vinge, as the only Nordic law firm to make the list, positions itself with a 17<sup>th</sup> place on the list among Europe's most called upon M&A law firms.**

As evident from the latest statistics from *mergermarket's* the Nordic market for major M&A transactions has begun to show positive signs. During the first nine months of the year Vinge has noted a clear increase in the number of transactions. With 36 transactions Vinge tops the list of the Nordic regions most called upon legal advisors.

The individual ranking of legal advisers finds four Vinge-lawyers among the top 15 most sought after with Vinge lawyers Johan Cederlund and Johan Göthberg occupying the two top positions. The significance of the increase of the Öresund region is demonstrated by the movement of Peter Linderöth of Vinge Malmö up to the fifth place of the individual ranking.

The recovery of the Nordic M&A market is also evident from Vinge's 17<sup>th</sup> place on the list of Europe most called upon legal advisors.

**- The development of the M&A market is definitely looking brighter, even if it might be too early to speak about a trend. The fact that Vinge not only kept its leading position in the Nordic region, but also recaptured a position among the most utilised law firms in Europe can be seen as a sign of strength, both for Vinge and for the Nordic M&A-market, says Michael Wigge, managing partner at Vinge Stockholm in a statement.**

*Vinge is one of the Nordic regions largest law firms, with approximately 445 employees of which around 275 are lawyers. The business is fully concentrated on business law, whereas a essential part constitutes international commissions of Mergers and Acquisitions and Corporate Finance.*

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*For further information please contact: Michael Wigge, tel.: +46 8-614 30 56, 070-714 30 56, michael.wigge@vinge.se. or Fredrik von Baumgarten, tel.: +46 8-614 31 07, 070-714 31 07, fredrik.baumgarten@vinge.se.*



ADVOKATFIRMAN VINGE KB • SMÅLANDSGATAN 20 • BOX 1703 • SE-111 87 STOCKHOLM • SWEDEN  
TEL +46 8 614 30 00 • FAX +46 8 614 31 90 • [www.vinge.se](http://www.vinge.se)

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*mergermarket is an English company that continuously compiles information regarding sales of a businesses and other transactions made on the European market. For more information visit [www.mergermarket.com](http://www.mergermarket.com).*

**mergermarket league table (by volume) of legal advisers advising on transactions in Europe<sup>(1)</sup> over EUR 5m in the period 01 Jan 2003 – 30 September 2003**

2003	House	Value (EURm)	No of deals
1	Clifford Chance	112,011	153
2	Linklaters	97,467	137
3	Allen & Overy	74,111	118
4	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	85,194	106
5	Ashurst Morris Crisp	28,993	80
6	Eversheds	3,404	67
7	CMS	15,659	64
8	Herbert Smith, Gleiss Lutz , Stibbe	34,418	60
9	Lovells	13,071	60
10	Jones Day Gouldens	21,314	58
11	DLA Group (formerly DLA & Partners)	2,127	53
12	Slaughter and May	34,446	46
13	Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom	71,020	45
14	Baker & McKenzie	4,931	43
15	White & Case	17,616	41
16	Shearman & Sterling LLP	29,004	38
17	<b>Vinge</b>	<b>2,530</b>	<b>38</b>
18	Macfarlanes	13,826	36
19	Hengeler Mueller	12,943	36
20	Osborne Clarke	2,012	36

**mergermarket league table (by volume) of legal advisers advising on deals in the Nordic Region<sup>(4)</sup> over EUR 5m in the period 01 Jan 2003 – 30 September 2003**

2003	Company Name	Value (EURm)	No of Deals
1	<b>Vinge</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>36</b>
2	Mannheimer Swartling	6,319	31
3	Linklaters	5,696	16
4	Roschier Holmberg	3,426	16
5	Hannes Snellman	1,072	10
6	Kromann Reumert	5,143	9
7	White & Case	1,816	9
8	Thommessen Krefting Greve Lund	6,578	8
9	Bech-Bruun Dragsted	963	8
10	Gorrissen Federspiel Kierkegaard	1,165	7

mergermarket league table (by volume) of legal advisers advising on deals in the Nordic Region<sup>(4)</sup> over EUR 5m in the period 01 Jan 2003 – 30 September 2003

2003	Advisor	Type	Current House	No of deals
1	Johan Cederlund	Corporate	Vinge	6
2	Johan Göthberg	Corporate	Vinge	6
3	Kaj Swanljung	Corporate	Roschier Holmberg	4
4	Göran Nyström	Corporate	Mannheimer Swartling	4
5	Peter Linderöth	Corporate	Vinge	4
6	Kim Dobrowen	Corporate	Thommessen	3
7	Tom Hård	Corporate	Mannheimer Swartling	3
8	Peter O'Driscoll	Corporate, Financing	Coudert Brotheras	3
9	Juhani Makinen	Corporate	Hannes Snellman	3
10	Johan Aalto	Corporate	Hannes Snellman	3
11	Dimitrios Himonas	Corporate	Roschier Holmberg	3
12	Ulf-Henrik Kull	Corporate	Roschier Holmberg	3
13	Fredrik von Baumgarten	Corporate	Vinge	3
14	Mika Ståhlberg	Corporate	Krogerus & Co	3
15	Lars Jonsson	Tax	Linklaters	3