

Sigma strengthens business systems and e-commerce resources - Acquires Datorex Nova AB with 22 employees

Sigma has acquired the Datorex Nova AB computer company, with 22 employees. The company develops and markets information systems for retailers.

"As a result of the acquisition, Sigma gains unique expertise in store data systems. Combined with our focus on e-commerce systems, this creates new possibilities for our customers," says Sune Nilsson, Business Area Manager for Sigma E-solutions, which after the demerger of the Group into three focused listed companies will become the new Sigma AB.

Based in Bollnäs, Sweden, Datorex markets and develops among other products the BRIDGE software package and cash and inventory management systems developed specifically for retailing. Customers include primarily the leading retail companies in the Nordic region, for example, MQ, Levis' stores, Gant and Fillipa K. A total of 180 companies with more than 390 stores in eight countries use the Datorex information system for store management.

"Datorex is skilled in integration of e-commerce systems and business systems regarding inventory balances and card payment. Information systems is a growing segment within Sigma and the acquisition is a step in this development. Datorex is an expansive company with good and long-standing customer relations. The acquired company's customer base also benefits Sigma's expansion in the Nordic region, the UK, the Netherlands and Germany," says Sune Nilsson.

"Sigma is an attractive and strong owner that provides much expertise in system development, infrastructure and e-commerce. Due to Sigma's operating structure, Datorex can remain an independent company," says Bengt Berntsson, President of Datorex.

The purchase price was SEK 14.7 M and Sigma's goodwill is estimated to increase by about SEK 8 M and will be amortized over ten years. Datorex's sales in 2001 are estimated to amount to SEK 16 M. The Sigma Group's earnings this year are expected to increase by about SEK 2 M after goodwill amortization. An earnings-based supplementary consideration may accrue during the next three years.

Sigma is a leading supplier of consulting services in the areas of e-solutions, embedded solutions and engineering solutions. The three business areas are expected to be listed on the exchange as three independent companies within a few months. The Group, which has some 3,300 employees in 13 countries, focuses on solutions for interaction, innovation and integration. Sigma's guiding principle is to strengthen its customers' competitiveness and brands. (www.sigma.se)

For additional information, contact:

- Sune Nilsson, Business Area Manager Sigma E-solutions AB, +46 31 725 47 02, mobile +46 703 79 15 28.
- Bengt Berntsson, President Datorex Nova AB, tel. +46 278 64 21 00, mobile +46 70 344 27 22.