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Bernhard Rikardsen to leave SAS

Bernhard Rikardsen, Executive Vice President of SAS, is to leave the SAS Group. He currently heads Corporate Administration & Support, which includes responsibility for the SAS Group's Corporate Human Resources function.

"The reason that Bernhard Rikardsen is leaving his position is that I would like to renew such areas as human resources," says Mats Jansson, President and CEO of SAS. "Therefore, after a period of discussion, we concluded that the best solution would be to go separate ways. I would like to thank Bernhard Rikardsen for his valuable contributions to SAS for many years."

"Now that a new CEO has taken office, I believe it is the right opportunity for me to leave my position," says Bernhard Rikardsen. "Such a role should not be held for an extended period of time. My years at SAS have been challenging and rewarding, particularly in the work concerning decentralization and cost reductions in the climate of intensifying competition in recent years. I wish the new management team the best of luck with the further development of SAS."

Svein Oppegaard, who is the Head of Human Resources at SAS Braathens, will also assume acting responsibility for Bernhard Rikardsen's human resources duties in SAS Group Management from January 8, 2007. Bernhard Rikardsen's other functions will be redistributed internally within Group Management.

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