

Press release

New Wave Group's subsidiaries Seger United and Craft of Scandinavia become the exclusive and official suppliers of sportswear and underwear respectively to the Swedish Football Association





Seger United – Umbro

Seger United AB, which is included in New Wave Group and has exclusive distribution and license rights to the international trademark Umbro in Sweden, has made a long-term co-operation deal with the Swedish Football Association. The co-operation, which is one of the most innovative within Swedish football ever, means that the Swedish Football Association will co-operate and develop the association's different activities with Umbro on a long-term basis. This new co-operation deal will be valid for six years, starting in 2003 and reaching through the year 2008.

The deal means that all Swedish national teams and the Swedish Football Association will, during the six-year period, use Umbro's products in all their activities, with the exception of underwear. Craft's underwear will instead be used, since Craft is also a part of New Wave Group. The co-operation will promote Swedish football on all levels.

"We consider this to be a great step towards the development of the trademark Umbro, and since it is a growing football trademark, we have certainly wished for a co-operation with the Swedish Football Association – a wish that has come true, giving us as well as our customers great opportunities," comments Ulf Segerqvist from Seger United AB.

"Swedish football will now be further developed. Umbro's genuine interest in the sport together with the experience of developing rewarding business relating to football, through many international contracts among other things, will contribute to a continuous positive development of Swedish football," says Mikael Salzér from the Swedish Football Association.

Seger United/Umbro will not only be the Swedish Football Association's exclusive and official sportswear supplier. It will also be a main sponsor of the Swedish Football Association's sponsor program "Top 2000", an offensive co-operation between the Swedish Football Association and Swedish' trade and industry.

New Wave Group in brief

New Wave is a clothing company that concentrates on establishing, acquiring and developing trademarks, mainly within the leisurewear sector. New Wave operates within two business areas, in the Corporate Profiling area through sales to independent promotion companies, as well as in the Retailing business area via retailers mainly within sportswear and shoes. By operating within both areas, the Group's risk spreading and the coordination advantages increase.

The Group's most well-known trademarks are Clique, Craft, Seger, Grizzly, James Harvest Sportswear, New Wave, Pax, Sagaform, Umbro (license), Nordica (license), Rollerblade (license) and Printer Active Wear.

Umbro and Seger United will within this intimate co-operation create a wide range relating to the Swedish Football Association and the Swedish national teams, which is expected to lead to great sales for the co-operation parties as well as Umbro's customers, since football is a growing sport in Sweden and internationally. The media's interest in football is also growing, which will favour the co-operation and its effects further.

Umbro and Seger United will also use the expertise of the Swedish Football Association when it comes to product development, in order to further strengthen its position in the Swedish market.



Craft of Scandinavia

Craft of Scandinavia, a part of New Wave Group, has also made a long-term cooperation deal with the Swedish Football Association. The deal makes Craft of Scandinavia the exclusive and official underwear supplier to the Swedish Football Association from 2003 through 2008.

Craft is Europe's leading trademark on functional underwear, an important part of every athlete's equipment. Among the successful teams and athletes that already use Craft, the Swedish National Skiing Team, Per Elofsson, several football teams, Tre Kronor and other hockey teams can be mentioned.

"We are obviously happy that yet another team will be dressed in Craft, especially since it is one of the most popular teams in Sweden. We also believe that this is very important for the trademark, since many people still think that functional underwear is only used for isolation in cold weather, when it is really meant to lead sweat away from your body, increase your perseverance etc. We now take another step towards making people understand that Craft's underwear can be used throughout the year. Today, the products are developed in co-operation with several national teams and now we can add another dimension to this area. Even though we already equip national football teams in Sweden as well as internationally, this can be seen as a door into the world's greatest sport: football," comments Jens Petersson from Craft of Scandinavia.



New Wave Group

"Of course we are happy to grow in co-operation with the Swedish Football Association, with the help of both Umbro and Craft. We see this engagement as a natural step towards the further strengthening of these trademarks. We estimate that the deal will result in heavily increased sales volumes. The development of the Retailing business area and its trademarks will speed up and it is intimately related to sports in the countries where we operate," comments Göran Härstedt from New Wave Group.

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