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## Skanova extends its Swedish fibre network

Telia's network wholesale company Skanova continues to expand its fibre network in Sweden. Five new sections are planned: Göteborg-Örebro, Göteborg-Jönköping, Malmö-Kalmar, Kalmar-Växjö and Kalmar-Stockholm. These sections will serve as "acceleration lanes" and direct routes to the soon-to-be completed fibre network the Scandinavian Ring, interconnecting Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö, Copenhagen and Oslo, with connections to Skanova's 50 000 km nationwide fibre network.

Work is planned to start in March 2001, and to be completed before year-end. Prime customers will be network operators and service providers, who will be offered the lease of capacity and infrastructure in the new network.

- The market for leasing optical fibre is of relatively recent date and demand shows strong growth. We already have an important market share, and count on increasing the lead with this investment, says Hans Linhammar, Market Director at Skanova.

Skanova has selected PNB Entreprenad AB as turn-key contractor for the project, which means that PNB Entreprenad AB will handle the whole process from digging trenches and running cable to splicing and line-up. The contract between PNB Entreprenad AB and Skanova is estimated to be worth about MSEK 330.

### **Om Skanova:**

Skanova is an independent wholesale network provider within the Telia group of companies. Skanova operates Sweden's largest telecom and data network, and offers its customers full network access, services and support. Our goal is to meet the growing need for top quality services. The challenge lies in enhancing the competitiveness of our customers with ground-breaking, sometimes unexpected, solutions. We have 2,500 employees, and our estimated turnover for our first year of operations is SEK 20 billion.

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