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Gunnar Johansson new CEO for Hilding Anders

Gunnar Johansson, 55, has been appointed as a Board member and CEO for the Hilding Anders Group, Europe's and Asia's leading bed manufacturer. Mr Johansson replaces Anders Pålsson who has decided to step down from his position after nine years at the helm of the company. The change will be effective as of today.

"We are delighted to welcome Gunnar Johansson onto the Board of Hilding Anders and feel that his credentials and background are ideal for the next phase of the Group's development. His prime tasks will be to accelerate organic growth in mature markets and to pursue acquisition opportunities in emerging markets", comments Fredrik Arp, Chairman of the Board. "Hilding Anders is an excellent company with a very good team and I would like to thank Anders Pålsson for his commitment and contribution to the Group during the past years", Fredrik Arp concludes.

Gunnar Johansson is Norwegian citizen and will commence his job initially on an interim basis. Mr Johansson has worked his entire career in consumer facing global industries, from 1981 to 2009 for SCA, where latterly he was responsible for SCA's Hygiene Category with annual sales exceeding 5 billion €. Gunnar Johansson will be based in Malmö at the Hilding Anders head office.

"I am joining a company regarded as an innovative market leader focused on driving consolidation within a fragmented industry. I perceive Hilding Anders as very well positioned to set and achieve strong growth targets and I am looking forward to creating value for employees, customers and investors during the coming years", says Gunnar Johansson.

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Hilding Anders' products provide consumers around the world with a good night's sleep. The company has annual net sales of 7 billion SEK, is based in Malmö, Sweden, and employs roughly 6.300 employees in 30 local companies on 40 different markets. Hilding Anders was founded in 1939 and has grown strongly during the past decade as consequence of several acquisitions and the consolidation of the global bed market. The company produces equally for leading international furniture companies as well as under own brands. Leading brand names are André Renault, Bico, Askona, Hilding, Jensen and Slumberland. Hilding Anders is owned by Candover, MezzVest and 40 leading management representatives. www.hildinganders.se