

Press release

12 November 2002

Prestigious first prize to Karlshamns – Best Financial Reporting
With a view to stimulating companies to improve and develop their external information, the Stockholm Stock Exchange once yearly appoints the "Best Financial Reporting". Among the 98 companies competing in the "large companies" category (market value above SEK 2,000 million), JM AB won first prize for its financial reporting. The "smaller companies" category comprised 224 listed companies, among which Karlshamns scored best.

During the award presentation on Tuesday 12 November, arranged in connection with the conference FINFORUM 2002 in Stockholm, Karlshamns was represented by its President Jerker Hartwall, CFO Stefan Sjölin and CIO Bo Svensson.

The jury's task is to single out the external financial reporting that best lives up to the requirements of shareholders and other readers, on the basis of a comprehensive review and evaluation of both contents and design. The external information under review consists of each company's annual report, interim reports, summarised financial statement for the year 2001 as well as the quality standard of its website.

This year's jury was manned by *Clas Reuterskiöld (Chairman)*, *Nils Liliedahl*, Stockholm Stock Exchange, *Mats Ödman*, Director Corporate Communications, Autoliv, *Björn Jansson*, Chief Analyst of Enskilda Securities, *Carl-Erik Bohlin*, Authorised Public Accountant of Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers.

The jury's concluding opinion about Karlshamns reporting - the annual report together with the interim reports - is that its financial information is of very high quality and reflects the company's ambition to describe its operations and business development in an informative yet tasteful way. The character of the annual report combines stability and renewal in a most attractive way. Numerous good features such as the list of contents, income statements and balance sheets with comments, the informative section on "Karlshamns and the environment" along with beautiful photos and a straightforward description of the development process contribute to make it all the more readable.

- Such a prestigious award shows that we are indeed on the right track with our financial reporting says President Jerker Hartwall, adding that Karlshamns purposeful improvements of its reporting standards is only one part of the far-reaching development process which is now well underway. The company launched its development process two years ago and has since accomplished a comprehensive strategy work while at the same time striving to rejuvenate its organisation and management. The goal is to achieve sustainable, profitable growth for Karlshamns, with simplicity and clarity serving as our lodestars along the road.

Facts about Karlshamns financial reporting

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