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Record production creates new jobs at BT

Truck manufacturer BT Products in Mjölby is producing electric powered trucks like never before. Incoming orders have reached a record high in 2005 and the workforce is increasing considerably.

Production of electric powered trucks has increased by 150% in 10 years! Much of this dramatic increase has been made possible through improved productivity, although it has also resulted in many new jobs at the factory in Mjölby, central Sweden.

"We operate on markets which are showing sound growth," says Thomas Persson, head of the Powered Trucks division in Mjölby. "Our sales organisation have been very successful, so we've not only increased our market growth but our market share too. We have achieved record production figures in nine of the past 10 years! We produced just under 15,000 electric powered trucks in 1995 and this year the figure will exceed 38,000. We're continuously increasing our production capacity and in a few years' time we'll have technical capacity for 60,000 trucks a year.

"Our raft of successful product launches in recent years has played an important part in our success. The rate of product development will continue to be high," says Thomas Persson.

More employees

In the past year, BT Products has employed over 100 new production staff. There are also around 60 or so temporary personnel at present.

"BT is increasing its workforce both globally and in Mjölby," explains Tommy Svensson, Vice President Human Resources. "We're experiencing a period of strong development and quite simply we need more people. Recruitment is going well, although it is more difficult in certain areas: mainly specialists in salaried positions and qualified welders.

"We will also need new skilled personnel in the future – both in Sweden and internationally," VP Human Resources Tommy Svensson concludes.

BT Industries is the world's leading supplier of warehouse trucks and related services.

We have approximately 8,300 employees and have a turnover of approximately SEK 13 billion.

Production takes place at seven plants in four countries and our sales network covers the entire world. Our customers are mainly large consumer-oriented companies with very high demands on efficient material handling.

BT Industries is owned by Toyota Industries Corporation.

For further information, please contact

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Photographs are available from the BT Industries website at <u>www.bt-industries.com</u> under press/press room/image gallery.