

## V&S Sustainability Report achieves highest reporting level according to GRI

V&S Group has achieved the highest level of A+ in line with Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) reporting guidelines. The A+ level has been confirmed by audit company Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers. The GRI is supported by the UN's environmental programme and entails the internationally best known and most widely used guidelines for sustainability reporting.

"We are among the first in Sweden to achieve A+. We have long taken a goaloriented approach to CSR, for example through responsible marketing, energy rationalization, transport, logistics and social responsibility, so it's a natural step for us to report this work in a standardized manner," says **Claes Åkesson**, Vice President Corporate Responsibility & Quality at V&S Group.

The GRI's efforts to harmonize sustainability reporting makes it easier to assess and compare companies from a social, environmental and economic perspective. Companies can voluntarily comply with GRI guidelines on three different levels, from C to the highest level of A. If an external audit body confirms the level of compliance, the company may add a plus sign, giving C+, B+ or A+.

Achieving Level A+ means that the company is one of the best in reporting its responsibility in financial decisions, and its performance in the areas of the environment and social responsibility.

## Further information:

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V&S Group is a Swedish-owned corporation with extensive international operations. The V&S product portfolio includes both own brands for local, regional and international sales, as well as agency products. The Group has operations in 10 countries and worldwide distribution in 126 markets. The biggest brand is ABSOLUT, the fourth biggest premium spirits brand in the world. The Group has approximately 2,100 employees and sales in 2007 amounted to SEK 10.3 billion.