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### **Press Release: Utfors pursues its task of switching Sweden on**

With the start-up of the Mälaren ring this summer, Utfors has now got the first sections of its new network in Sweden up and running. The Östgöta Ring was put into operation in September. It includes Linköping, Norrköping, Södertälje, Västerås, Örebro, and Jönköping.

Utfors is planning to switch on the Sweden Ring during the month of October.

This fibre network is designed so that the very latest technology can be used at both the optic level (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing, DWDM) and the transport level (GigaEthernet, RouteSwitches, and the next generation, Terrabit Routers). The transport speeds provided are much higher than in any other network in Sweden.

This network is based on Utfors's unique way of combining IP, Ethernet and DWDM. This combination of technology paves the way for the next-generation service offering of IP-based services.

Our IP-based services focus on:

- LAN-to-LAN via IP
- Fixed virtual private networks (VPN) via IP to companies
- Fixed access to the Internet
- Telephony and fax services via IP, integrated with the above three services
- Dial-up VPN to companies
- Fixed Internet connections for private customers

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Utfors is the obvious Nordic partner for highly qualitative fixed and mobile broadband, Internet and telephony services. In 2000, Utfors will be launching a network with technology that lies at the world's very forefront. In this network Utfors offers, companies, authorities and private individuals, revolutionary services that create whole new possibilities for development and creativity. In 2001, Utfors will be linking together the 75 largest cities in the Nordic region. The company employs around 240 people in Stockholm, Oslo, Uppsala, Gothenburg, Malmö and Överkalix. Utfors's principal owners are Norsk Vekst and Litorina Kapital as well as a number of institutional