



Press release

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The Leader of the Year - Roland Nilsson, Scandic Hotels

Roland Nilsson, President & CEO of Scandic Hotels, has been named "Leader of the Year ", in Sweden. The recognition as "Leader of the Year" is being awarded for the sixteenth time by the recruiting company Futurestep and the Affärsvärlden business weekly. The naming of "Leader of the Year" is intended to focus attention on positive role models within the Swedish business community.

"Decentralized service companies must be managed with values and corporate culture. This is why they are interesting from a viewpoint of leadership. Roland Nilsson has done an outstanding job with this decentralized service company," says Arne Mårtensson, CEO of Handelsbanken and a jury member.

**The Jury's motivation, Leader of the Year 2000:**

The Leader of the Year, Roland Nilsson, Scandic Hotels AB, was awarded this recognition for his work in making Scandic Hotels a successful hotel company, which has become a model for the industry.

Roland Nilsson has carried out a turnaround of the company and today it is highly respected by the stock market. The company was first listed on the exchange in 1996 and currently has a market capitalization exceeding SEK 6 billion. Scandic is continuing to grow through acquisitions and has developed a system that makes it possible to "add a new hotel to the family" in six to twelve months.

Succeeding in managing a company such as Scandic Hotels requires a leadership style that permits decentralization and that is based on common values within the company. Roland Nilsson has been very successful in this respect. He is a leader with the ability to listen and promote participation and a feeling for results, regardless of where a person serves in the organization.

The jury for "Leader of the Year" comprises Sven Wallgren, Chairman, Per-Olof Eriksson, Professor Christer Karlsson, Stockholm School of Economics, Arne Mårtensson, CEO of Handelsbanken, Anita Steen, President of Systembolaget, Caroline Drabe, Manager of Futurestep Sweden, Anders Gulliksson, Managing Partner of Korn/Ferry, and Pär Isaksson, Acting Editor-in-Chief, Affärsvärlden.

**Previous award winners:**

1984	Marcus Storch, AGA
1985	Anders Lindström, Bacho
1986	Bengt Eskilsson, ESAB
1987	Ingvar Eriksson, Scania Divisionen
1988	Stefan Persson, Hennes & Mauritz
1989	Allan Larsson, AMS
1990	Bernt Magnusson, Nordstjernan
1991	Christina Jutterström, Dagens Nyheter

1992	Berthold Lindqvist, Gambro
1993	Christer Agell, Ankor Group
1994	Nils-Erik Johansson, Hemköp
1995	Maria Lilja, Nyman & Schultz
1996	Hans Mellström och Thord Wilkne, WM-data
1997	Salvatore Grimaldi, Monark Stiga
1998	Carl-Henric Svanberg, Assa Abloy
1999	Sven Landelius, Teddy Jacobsen och Peter Lundhus, Öresundskonsortiet

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Scandic Hotels AB is the Nordic region's leading hotel company with 155 hotels in 10 countries. Scandic Hotels' strategy is to be a dedicated hotel operator. Its business concept is "to offer as many people as possible the best value for money hotel accommodation possible, whether they are travelling on business or for pleasure"



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