
P R E S S R E L A S E 25 October 2002

Hilding Anders acquires unit from Dunlopillo

Ratos's associated company Hilding Anders has acquired Dunlopillo's bed manufacturing unit in the UK. This deal means that Hilding Anders, one of Europe's largest bed manufacturers, is now strengthening its position in the UK where the company already owns Slumberland Plc.

In addition to the assets in these operations, the acquisition gives Hilding Anders sole rights to the Dunlopillo brand in the UK and Ireland.

"Slumberland and Dunlopillo complement each other and target different sectors of the market. Dunlopillo is a well-established luxury brand while Slumberland's strength lies in the middle segment of the market," comments Bengt Adolfsson CEO of Hilding Anders.

Dunlopillo manufactures beds, pillows and mattresses and has annual sales of approximately GBP 14m. The company has 90 employees. Patrick Newstead will be CEO of Hilding Anders UK and will be responsible for both the Dunlopillo and Slumberland units.

Hilding Anders (www.hildinganders.se) is one of Europe's largest bed manufacturers with a market share of 15%. The company has operations in 14 countries around Europe. Hilding Anders has grown substantially in recent years from sales in 1987 of approximately SEK 62m to its present level of approximately SEK 3.8 billion in 2002. The company has approximately 2,200 employees. A stock-exchange listing is planned in 2003.

Ratos's holding in Hilding Anders amounts to 27%.

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Financial calendar 2002 and 2003:

Interim Report January-September 2002	13 November 2002
Year-end report 2002	21 February 2003
Annual General Meeting 2003	9 April 2003
Interim Report January-March 2003	12 May 2003
Interim Report January-June 2003	27 August 2003
Interim Report January-September 2003	12 November 2003

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