PRESS RELEASE

from ASSA ABLOY AB (publ)

15 September, 1999
no.15/99

ASSA ABLOY acquires Danish wholesaler

ASSA ABLOY's Danish subsidiary A/S Ruko acquires the lock wholesaler Sloth & Co. Ruko will hereby strengthen its distribution capacity in Denmark and will be able to offer improved customer service. This will also give Ruko the opportunity to sell other lock related products, mainly from companies within the ASSA ABLOY Group.

Ruko acquires the majority of the shares by next summer, year 2000, and the remaining part can be purchased to a fixed price in year 2003. Poul Sloth, President of Sloth & Co, remains as President for the company whilst Carl Trock, President of A/S Ruko, will assume responsibility as Chairman of the Board. Sloth & Co. was founded in 1921 by the current owner's grandfather. The company has 25 employees and estimated sales in 1999 of M 100 DKK.

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The ASSA ABLOY Group is the world's leading manufacturer and supplier of locks and associated products, dedicated to satisfying end-user needs for security, safety and convenience. In 1999 the Group will report sales exceeding SEK 10 billion and has about 12 000 employees.