

Stockholm, April 7, 2006

Ahlsell acquires cooling-products company Tempcold

Ahlsell has signed an agreement with Atle Industri to acquire its wholly owned cooling-products company Tempcold.

Tempcold offers a comprehensive range of cooling products throughout the Nordic region and last year had a turnover of around SEK 340 million with an operating result of more than SEK 9 million and 130 employees. The company is a subsidiary of Atle Industri that is jointly (50/50) owned by Ratos and 3i.

“The acquisition strengthens Ahlsell’s market position within the Refrigeration product segment and increases our presence throughout the Nordic region. Apart from a strongly positioned and well-established company, we gain access to a large cooling-products market in which Ahlsell’s product range can create new business opportunities”, says Göran Näsholm, President and CEO of Ahlsell.

The acquisition will have a positive impact on the group’s result from 2006.

The transaction is subject to approval by the concerned competition authorities. The new company will be consolidated in the Ahlsell group as soon as we receive a positive response from the concerned competition authorities.

For further information, please contact Göran Näsholm, President and CEO, or Camilla Weiner, CIO, on + 46-(0)8-685 70 00.

Ahlsell is the Nordic region’s largest trading company in installation products, tools and machinery that offers professional users a wide range of goods and peripheral services within the product segments of Heating & Plumbing, Electrical, Tools & Machinery, Refrigeration and DIY (Do-It-Yourself). The group’s turnover is about SEK 17 billion and it has about 4,000 employees.

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