

PRESS RELEASE 19 March 2004

BTJI/InfoData new holding for Ratos

Ratos has today concluded an agreement on investing approximately SEK 250m in BTJ Intressenter AB. At the same time, the BTJI-Group (BTJI) will acquire 100% of the company InfoData.

Within BTJI there are three operating areas. Bibliotekstjänst is the dominant supplier of library services, primarily to public and school libraries in Sweden. PriolInfo supplies database and subscription services to companies. The book wholesaler Seelig offers information, wholesale and logistic services relating to books to the book trade and publishers. In 2003 BTJI's sales totalled almost SEK 1.1 billion pro forma and operating profit (EBITA) amounted to just over SEK 40m. The number of employees is approximately 500.

Schlumberger InfoData AB (InfoData) is a leading supplier of database and direct marketing services in Sweden. The company's 2003 sales reached almost SEK 700m and operating profit (EBITA) amounted to approximately SEK 150m. The company has some 450 employees.

After the acquisition of InfoData, BTJI will have annual sales of approximately SEK 1.8 billion.

"Ratos's investment will enable BTJI to make the strategic acquisition of InfoData. By co-ordinating the operations of two companies, one of Scandinavia's largest information suppliers is created," says Ratos CEO, Arne Karlsson, commenting on today's investment.

Ratos is investing SEK 250m as a loan which can be transformed into shares corresponding to 49% of the share capital in BTJI as well as a convertible that on conversion would provide an additional holding of approximately 7%. Other owners of BTJI are Litorina Kapital (36%), the Swedish Library Association (11%) and BTJI's management (4%). The deal is subject to approval from the competition authorities.

For further information, please contact:

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Financial calendar from Ratos:

Annual General Meeting	1 April 2004
Interim Report January-March 2004	12 May 2004
Interim Report January-June 2004	25 August 2004
Interim Report January-September 2004	12 November 2004

Ratos is a listed private equity company. The business concept is to maximise shareholder value over time by investing in, developing and divesting primarily unlisted companies. Ratos thus offers stock market players a unique investment opportunity. The net asset value of Ratos's investments is approximately SEK 8 billion. Ratos's holdings include Arcorus, Atle Industri, Bluegarden, Camfil, Dahl, DIAB, Dynal Biotech, Gadelius, Haendig, Haglöfs, HL Display, Industri Kapital, Intervect, Lindab, LRT/Tornet, Martinsson, Overseas Telecom, Q-Labs and Superfos.