

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Rights Issue in ASSA ABLOY

ASSA ABLOY makes a rights issue 1:25

The Board of Directors of ASSA ABLOY has passed a resolution regarding the terms of the previously announced new share issue with preferential rights for the company's shareholders. The rights issue is to be approved by the Annual General Meeting on May 3, 2000.

The new shares will be issued at a subscription rate of SEK 120 per share. Twenty-five old shares of Series A will entitle to subscription to one new share of Series A and twenty-five old shares of Series B to subscription to one new share of Series B.

The issue will raise approximately SEK 1.5 billion. The capital raised will be used to finance the acquisition of the lock division of Williams Plc (Yale Intruder Security). The principal owners, Metra Oy Ab, Investment AB Latour, SÄKI AB and Melker Schörling (together with associated companies), representing 35% of the shares in the company, will subscribe for the subscription rights they receive.

The timetable has been decided as follows:

<i>May 3</i>	Resolution by the Annual General Meeting to decide upon a new rights issue.
<i>May 4</i>	ASSA ABLOY shares are traded excluding the right to subscribe for the new share issue and dividend.
<i>May 8</i>	Record date for participation in the rights issue, i. e. shareholders registered as shareholders in ASSA ABLOY's shareholders' register on this day will obtain subscription rights to participate in the new issue.
<i>From May 15 until May 30</i>	Period of trading of subscription rights.
<i>From May 15 until June 5</i>	Period of subscription and payment.

The Board of Directors of ASSA ABLOY proposes an authorisation to issue new shares

The Board of Directors of ASSA ABLOY has decided to recommend to the Annual General Meeting on May 3, 2000, to authorise the Board of Directors to decide upon a directed issue by disapplying the shareholders' preferential rights. The authorisation is proposed to be for not more than 19,765,032 shares of Series B.

The reason for the authorisation and the disapplication of shareholders' preferential rights is that the purchase price for ASSA ABLOY's acquisition of the lock division of Williams Plc (Yale Intruder Security) shall partly be paid through new shares of Series B in ASSA ABLOY. As the time for the completion of the acquisition and the payment of the purchase price are dependent on regulatory approvals, it is necessary for the Board of Directors to be flexible as regards *inter alia* the time for the completion of the share issue.

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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 reported sales of SEK 10, 277 million and has about 13,000 employees.

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