



Stockholm, 28 January 2010

**Press Release**

**Report on the results of the Sustainable Value Creation investor initiative**

Today, the results of a survey will be released that began in September 2009, when questionnaires were sent to the chairmen of the 100 companies with the highest market capitalisation listed on the NASDAQ OMX Stockholm exchange. An impressive 84% of the companies responded.

The survey deals with four main areas: the company's key policy documents and commitments, implementation and compliance, communication and reporting and accountability of the board. The companies were asked about policies related to human rights, labour rights, the environment and climate change, anti-corruption, responsible business conduct and health, working environment, and safety.

The results show that companies that work methodically on sustainability have also advanced the furthest in integrating these issues at the strategic and operating levels. What these companies have in common is that they see sustainability issues as an opportunity as well as a prerequisite for good business practices, so the issues spur value creation.

**Conclusions from the survey**

- >> Boards and corporate management claim to place great emphasis on sustainability issues, and as many as 75% of company boards believe that they themselves command the expertise necessary for following up sustainability work.
- >> Sustainability issues are not reflected in bonus systems.
- >> More than 90% of the companies have key policies in at least one of the sustainability areas in the survey. A majority have policies for all of the areas.
- >> Not all companies have come quite as far in implementing their policies.
- >> Environmental issues and climate change are regarded as the easiest to link to economic gain and business opportunities, while half of the companies lack a structure for working on human rights and labour rights.

“Through the Sustainable Value Creation project, we want to acquire better information for investment decisions and activities as company shareholders,” says Allan Emanuelsson, project manager for Sustainable Value Creation. “The survey responses are valuable to us as investors, because they show how the companies see their responsibility for and work on sustainable value creation.”

The report containing the conclusions from the survey can be downloaded from [www.hallbartvardeskapande.se](http://www.hallbartvardeskapande.se)

**The following investors are behind Sustainable Value Creation:**

Andra AP-fonden (AP2)	DnB NOR	Fjärde AP-fonden (AP4)
Folksam	Första AP-fonden (AP1)	Handelsbanken
KK Foundation	meta asset management	Nordea Investment Funds
SEB	Skandia Liv	SPP
Swedbank Robur T	he Church of Sweden	Tredje AP-fonden (AP3)



### **Spokespersons for the investors:**

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### **What is Sustainable Value Creation?**

Fifteen Swedish institutional investors – managing assets of SEK 4,000 billion – are behind the Sustainable Value Creation project.

Together, these institutions have SEK 550 billion invested in the Swedish stock market. At 30 June 2009, that corresponded to 20% of the capital on the NASDAQ OMX Stockholm exchange.

The purpose of this investor collaboration is to highlight the importance of Swedish listed companies working methodically on sustainability for long-term value creation.