



Press release

24th of April 2009

Sparbanken 1826 acquires Swedbank's local branch office in Olofström

Swedbank has agreed to the sale of its local branch office in Olofström to Sparbanken 1826. Through the acquisition Sparbanken 1826 highlights its role as a local and regional actor, further strengthening their joint customer offering through its partnership with Swedbank in the local county of Olofström.

Through the sale Swedbank's and Sparbanken 1826's existing partnership continues further. The collaboration with Swedbank is important for Sparbanken 1826's future development as a professional and cost effective bank service.

"The regional development in southern Sweden is has slowly eroded the borders resulting in that Skåne and Blekinge are becoming one region. In order to strengthen our presence in this region, we have acquired the Swedbank's branch office in Olofström" says Bo Bengtsson, CEO of Sparbanken 1826.

Customers can be confident with the fact that Sparbanken 1826 will preserve and develop the office so that it will benefit customers, employees, the local sparbanks office and the entire region.

"We will carry out new initiatives at the Olofström office and we will through the acquisition be able to offer specialists and tailered products to our customers in the region" adds Bo Bengtsson.

"We have a long-term partnership with Sparbanken 1826. We look forward to a continued successful collaboration allowing for further joint offers to our customers" says Urban Toresson, Regional head of Swedbank in Karlskrona.

All employees at the local branch offices in Olofström are invited to continue with the new organisation. Consequent to the acquisition Swedbank will make a profit of 40 million SEK.

Media are invited to a press conference at Swedbank's branch office in Olofström on April 24th at 14.30 pm.

Read more about Sparbanken 1826 on www.sparbanken1826.se and about Swedbank on www.swedbank.com

For further information contact:

Bo Bengtsson, CEO Sparbanken 1826, phone: +46 44-13 83 15 or +46 70-316 8315 Urban Toresson, Regional head Swedbank Karlskrona, phone: + 46 455-585 01 or +46 70-511 46 59

Anna Sundblad, Press manager, Swedbank, phone: +46 70-321 39 95