



**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **HiQ makes major investment in Finance – staff numbers to double again**

**HiQs Finance business area has grown 100% over the last two years, and a major investment will be made in 2008 by doubling the number of employees yet again. HiQ has cutting-edge expertise in processes and IT for securities trading.**

“Major changes are currently underway in the financial industry. Global competition means that the industry has to become more efficient. EU directives for greater transparency and more competition (such as SEPA and MiFID) require changes that cut across system portfolios and processes. The existing systems are not prepared for the kind of cooperation that is needed, and the industry has to find competitive solutions. Furthermore, constant technological progress is creating new business opportunities that cannot be missed,” says Magnus Gudéhn, who heads HiQ’s Business Critical IT business area.

HiQ works in communication, and specialises in solving complex problems – an everyday fact of life in the financial industry. HiQ offers IT management and business consulting in securities trading, experienced project leaders, and developers and testers who specialise in integration. HiQ’s existing clients include platform providers, major banks, insurance companies and many other players in the securities market. “The business area currently employees around 60 people, a figure that will double over the next year,” says Gudéhn.

“The IT systems in finance are more industry-specific than they are in many other industries. Industry knowledge is therefore a common requirement for consultants who work in this sector, and it is a challenge to find good consultants with the right experience. But we have had great success in recruiting capable people. Our initiatives in terms of IT management and business development in securities trading are particularly exciting. We have, in a short time, established a strong position in a well-established market,” continues Gudéhn.

**For additional information, please contact:**

Magnus Gudéhn, Manager for HiQ Finance, +46 (0)704-200 082, [magnus.gudehn@hiq.se](mailto:magnus.gudehn@hiq.se)

Anna Jennehov, Head of Corporate Communications, HiQ, +46(0)704-200 049,

[anna.jennehov@hiq.se](mailto:anna.jennehov@hiq.se)

*HiQ is an IT and management consultancy that focuses on high-tech solutions in the fields of communication, software development and simulation. The company is a leader in these fields, and the Nordic region is its domestic market. HiQ employs more than 1,000 employees at offices in the Nordic region and Eastern Europe. HiQ is listed on the Nordic Stock Exchange MidCap list. For more information, please visit [www.hiq.se](http://www.hiq.se)*