



## Press release

18 November 2008

### Handheld was given the title "Gazelle Company" by the Swedish business daily Dagens Industri!

Dagens Industri (DI) is the leading business magazine in the Nordic area and its web site has been chosen the best online business news site in Sweden every year for the past 8 years by business professionals.

Since the year 2000, DI has been electing the fastest growing companies in the country, Sweden's Gazelles. According to DI, this is done to promote progress by providing Sweden's entrepreneurs with inspiring examples. The Handheld Group is one of the companies that have been nominated as a Gazelle company 2008.

DI describes the Gazelle company concept as follows:

*"The term Gazelles was created by the American scholar David Birch. As far back as the 1980s, he proved that it was the small, fast-growing companies that create most new work places as compared to the economy's elephants which are always trying to be more efficient and often reduce the number of work places. Furthermore, Gazelles are different from the smallest companies, the so called "mouse" companies. Mouse companies are struggling hard to make a living and growing is not their first priority. Gazelles are the dynamic intermediate layer of the industry. The criteria are strict. Less than 1% of Sweden's joint-stock companies meet the requirements to classify as Gazelle Companies, according to a survey done by the Stockholm School of Economics".*

*"This is the second prestigious award we have received recently," says Jerker Hellström, CEO of the Handheld Group. "The Gazelle award is a quality stamp for our company and our aim is, certainly, to remain Gazelles in the coming years."*

For the past year, Handheld expanded significantly and opened offices in the USA and Italy. Soon, it will also open an office in another European country. Jerker Hellström sees a bright future, despite the bank crisis and the recession: *"The growth in 2008 has been very strong so far and October was our strongest month ever when it comes to orders, so we continue our expansion," says the contented Group CEO.*

According to DI, a Gazelle company shall meet the following criteria:

- It must have published at least 4 financial statements
- Its turnover must exceed SEK 10 million
- It has to have at least two employees
- Its turnover must have increased continually for the past three years
- For this same period, it must have at least doubled its turnover
- Its total operating results for the past four financial years must be positive
- Essentially, it must have grown organically, not through acquisitions and mergers
- It must have sound finances



# handheld

**About Handheld Europe:**

Handheld Europe is a European supplier of rugged mobile computers. Handheld Europe and its partners deliver complete mobility solutions to businesses in industries such as logistics, forestry, public transportation, construction, military, and security on the EMEA market. Handheld Europe is a subsidiary of HHCS Handheld AB of Sweden. For more information, please see [www.handheldeurope.com](http://www.handheldeurope.com) or contact Handheld Europe at [sales@handheldeurope.com](mailto:sales@handheldeurope.com)

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