



*Innovation for Growth*

Press release 11.12.12

## Prevas and Outokumpu sign strategic partnership agreement

**Prevas is entering into a strategic partnership with Outokumpu in Avesta with the aim of continuously optimizing the energy use of furnace operations in Outokumpu's production.**

As the cost of energy increases, so do companies' needs to find optimal energy solutions for production. Manufacturing steel products requires a great deal of energy. The material is heated up and cooled down several times to achieve the desired qualities. In order to utilize furnaces effectively, it is necessary to optimize productivity, quality and energy consumption.

Outokumpu is one of the world-leading suppliers of stainless steel. Together with Prevas, Outokumpu has defined a number of common goals for the partnership in order to secure, streamline and optimize its production in Avesta. Among other things, the parties will work together to reduce energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in furnace operations by 3 percent over the coming year.

"We've chosen to sign an agreement with Prevas because we're looking for a long-term collaboration in order to work on improvements within furnace operations. It's important for both parties. I believe that it's possible if you have a partner that, together with you, is very familiar with the plant. In order to be able to achieve lasting improvements, there's a need for long-sightedness, something we're convinced we'll have together with Prevas," says Claes Nilsson Sörebo, General Manager at Outokumpu.

"Prevas has worked together with Outokumpu in Avesta for some time now and we're very happy to be able to deepen our relationship through this partnership. Working together with Outokumpu towards concrete goals in order to further strengthen their competitiveness feels truly inspirational. I believe that this specific type of partnership, in which we exploit each other's strengths as best we can, is key in enabling Nordic industry to confront increasingly tough global competition," says Johan Bäckman, Business Unit Manager at Prevas.

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### For more information and follow-up:

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### About Prevas

With cutting edge expertise in embedded systems and industrial IT, Prevas contributes by providing innovative solutions that create growth. Prevas was founded in 1985, and the company is the main supplier and development partner to leading companies in industries such as life science, telecommunications, automotive, defense, energy and engineering. Offices are located in Sweden, Denmark, Norway and India. The company has just over 600 employees. Prevas has been listed on the NASDAQ OMX Nordic Exchange in Stockholm since 1998. For more information, please visit [www.prevas.com](http://www.prevas.com).

### About Outokumpu

Outokumpu is a global leader in stainless steel with the vision of being the clear leader. Customers in a wide range of industries use our stainless steels and services worldwide. Our stainless steels can be recycled, and they are maintenance-free, strong and durable. Our stainless steel is a material for building a sustainable future.