

PRESS RELEASE

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Sweden's healthiest company!

Billerud AB Gruvön mill has been selected as the healthiest company of the year. The prize is awarded by Korpen Sverige, the national sports confederation, and Dagens Industri, the national business newspaper. The company received the award today at a ceremony in Stockholm. Gruvön won the prize in competition with Dalarna county council services, Sala-Heby Energi-Holding AB and a section of the National Road Administration.

"It's a great achievement, especially for all the employees and out health counsellors who really deserve the award for their efforts," says Torbjörn Joghed, mill manager at Gruvön.

Lotta Bergquist, head of the human resources department at Gruvön, Cathe Karlsson, the company nurse, and three of the 12 official health counsellors at the mill were present at the award ceremony at Skansen, Stockholm.

Lotta Bergquist was very pleased to receive the award. "We have focused on our healthcare programme at Gruvön over the past year. Health counsellors were appointed in all our departments. The purpose has been to start a long-term healthcare programme and gain certification. One of our aims is to reduce absenteeism."

"Since the project started we have cut sick leave by 1.5% and last week we gained certification for our healthcare programme," reports Torbjörn Joghed. "The prize will spur us on to continue the good work we have started and it is proof that we are on the right track in looking after the health of our staff."

Gruvön came first in the award for large businesses with over 300 employees and was also the overall winner.

The jury's citation for the award is as follows:

"Billerud AB Gruvön mill has shown proof of a determined and strategically planned healthcare programme, which has the full support of senior management. Helped by an integrated healthcare organisation and in close co-operation with the company healthcare group, the programme works long-term with an ambitious vision and goals for the employees' health, environment, enjoyment and involvement."

For further information, please contact:

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Billerud manufactures and sells packaging paper, in the form of kraft paper and containerboard, as well as market pulp. Production is carried out at the Group's integrated pulp and paper mills in Gruvön, Karlsborg and Skärblacka. Billerud has a world-leading position within several well-defined product segments. The main customer base is Europe but also includes the rest of the world. Billerud has annual sales of approximately SEK 7 billion and 2,400 employees.