

REAL ESTATE CAPITAL FUND MANAGED BY AURATUM REAL ESTATE OY BUYS COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES FROM TRADEKA

A real estate capital fund managed by Auratum Real Estate Oy has purchased five commercial properties from Tradeka. All of the five properties are occupied by Tradeka's Valintatalo stores. Tradeka and its Valintatalo store concept will remain as a long-term tenant at the properties located in the Helsinki region and Tampere.

"The properties were purchased by the real estate capital fund AKR Tuotto Ky, which we launched at the beginning of 2008. The acquisition was based on the properties' location in strong growth centres and the long-term leases with Finland's largest operator of neighbourhood stores, Tradeka Oy", said Oskari Hartikainen, Partner at Auratum Real Estate Oy.

"AKR Tuotto Ky seeks to build a diversified real estate portfolio consisting of various types of properties, and these acquisitions fit well into that strategy. The fund has now reached its intended size, but naturally we are leaving the door open for further acquisitions", explains Matti Äijälä, Managing Partner of Auratum Real Estate Oy.

According to Manager Seppo Hämäläinen from Tradeka, "Selling these commercial properties supports our objective of freeing up capital for our core business. The long-term leases ensure that we can continue to operate at these good locations far into the future".

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Auratum Real Estate Oy is part of the Auratum Group, which provides asset management services, venture capital investment and real estate activities. The property development activities of Auratum Real Estate Oy focus on quality residential sites and office facilities. The company also handles the administration of properties and property funds. At the present time, the real estate portfolio managed by the company includes commercial, logistics and office properties and residential development projects in the metropolitan area and in Finland's largest cities.

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AKR Tuotto Ky is a real estate capital fund managed by Auratum Real Estate Oy. The fund's investment portfolio includes logistics, office, hotel and retail properties in the Helsinki region, Hämeenlinna and Turku. The total commitment of the fund is EUR 25 million and the main investors are Veritas Pension Insurance, Veritas Life Insurance, Turun Seudun Osuuspankki (OP Bank, Turku) and Rausanne Oy.

Tradeka Oy is a retail company with a multiple chain store structure. The company owns and centrally manages all of its stores. Tradeka's business is divided into three nationwide store brands: Siwa, Valintatalo and Euromarket. Tradeka reported a net turnover of EUR 1,387.2 million in 2007. The company owns approximately 760 grocery stores in Finland and three outlets in St Petersburg. The Tradeka Group has over 7,000 employees.