



Catella establishes property investment management platform in Norway

Catella enters property investment management in Norway and mezzanine fund management in Luxembourg through an initiative in partnership with Jarle Norman-Hansen and Bjarte Solheim, both with extensive experience from the property investment markets of Norway and the Nordics.

“Catella has a very strong Nordic and Continental European platform within both property investment management, with EUR 3.2 billion under management, and real estate corporate finance. We have most recently launched a residential funds operation in Germany, established Catella in Spain, and we continue to develop our successful operations in Finland, France, Denmark, Iberia and Luxembourg. The establishment in Norway is a natural next step in our expansion. Norway is a big and well-functioning market where we believe we can bring value to our future clients. In 2016, we will also build a corporate finance business in Norway to offer both local transaction capacity and access to our European corporate finance business,” says Knut Pedersen, President and CEO at Catella.

Jarle Norman-Hansen and Bjarte Solheim have been involved in multiple Nordic real estate transactions as advisors, managers or owners. Combined, they have made more than SEK 50 billion in real estate equity, mezzanine and debt investments.

“Catella will gain access to a management team with extensive, relevant investment experience across diverse property types, geographies and stages of the economic cycle. They have a wide network of local investors, lenders and advisors across the Nordics. Additionally, Catella will obtain access to a real estate fund set-up and related mezzanine financing platform based in Luxembourg,” says Timo Nurminen, Head of Property Investment Management at Catella.

Jarle Norman-Hansen has 28 years of experience from the Nordic property markets, and is the founder and managing partner of the Luxembourg-based Ambolt Advisors S.a.r.l., a mezzanine fund manager currently managing two funds financing Nordic property investments. He was previously head of Real Estate & Research at ABG Sundal Collier and Head of Research at Alfred Berg and First Securities.

Bjarte Solheim has 17 years of experience from the Nordic property markets, and is the founder of Norwegian asset manager Elementum. Prior to that, he was founder/managing partner at Solist, a Norwegian property fund, and director/managing partner at Fearnley Finans Eiendom.

Catella will form a new partnership company with Norman-Hansen and Solheim, which will acquire their existing platforms, Ambolt Advisors S.a.r.l. and Elementum Asset Management AS. The new enterprise will focus on property investment and asset management on behalf of Norwegian and international investors and managing of mezzanine debt funds. The operations will start in the beginning of 2016.

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“Catella has now grown to become a one-stop shop within local third-party asset management for cross-border and local investors. We will also selectively launch niche fund products to meet the needs of local investors,” says Timo Nurminen.

Catella has assets under management of approximately EUR 14 billion. The Property Investment Management business area has assets under management of approximately EUR 3.2 billion and has operations in Germany, Finland, France, Denmark, Iberia and Luxembourg.

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Catella is a financial advisor and asset manager with in-depth knowledge of property, fixed income and equities. Catella is a leader in the property sector, with a strong local presence in Europe, and employs some 500 professionals in 12 countries. Catella is listed on First North Premier on Nasdaq Stockholm. Read more at catella.com.