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## **Martela starts operations in Russia**

Ergonomic and Innovative Furniture for Offices and Public Spaces

Martela is the producer of ergonomic and innovative design furniture, who also provides services for workplace management. In December Martela opens its first showroom in Russia. The showroom on Vasilevsky island in St. Petersburg displays Martela collections for working environments.

Martela collections are based on the needs of workstations and working environments. The core idea behind is to offer design that improves the everyday life. For example, company's latest improvements in acoustic conditions of the big open offices significantly increase the motivation and an overall performance of employees.

"We communicate to our customers that investments in working environments are proven to have, according to studies, pay-back in the form of improved results and diminished costs of occupational health care", says Heikki Martela, President of Martela Group.

### **Presence in Russia is an investment into the future**

Martela is the market leader in Finland and among the leading three in the Nordic countries. The company has production in Finland, Sweden and Poland. The main markets are in the Baltic Sea region, Scandinavia and Poland. Martela registered two companies in Moscow and Saint-Petersburg in 2008 and now since the opening of the first showroom the operation will start on full scale.

"Our goal is to have a gradual start on the Russian market, building long-term relationship with the customers, who are looking for the original Finnish design and quality proven by decades. Our products are ergonomic, durable and easy to use. Martela's optimal interior solutions help our clients to work effectively day after day already for more than 60 years. We guarantee the renewal of collection at any time", says Veli-Matti Savo, Vice-President Business Development of Martela Group and General Director of Martela SP.

Martela is a 64 years old family company listed in the Nordic OMX Stock Exchange Market in Helsinki. In 2008 Martela group invoicing was 141,2 million € and the number of employees working in the group was around 700 persons. Martela has ISO 14001 and ISO 9001 environmental and quality certifications and has won a number of prestigious design rewards.

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General Director

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Martela is Finland's largest provider of furniture for public spaces. The company was established in 1945 and it was listed on the stock exchange in 1986. Martela has production plants in Finland at Nummela, Kitee and Raisio and abroad in Bodafors, Sweden and Warsaw, Poland. In 2008, Martela employed an average of 660 people, of which approximately 520 work in Finland. Martela's consolidated revenue totalled EUR 130 million in 2008.