

Management buyout creates new, large Danish company with 600 employees

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Serwiz
Stamholmen 151
2650 Hvidovre
Denmark

Email: info@serwiz.dk

CVR: 34693919
www.serwiz.dk

The French Food and Facility Management Services leader Sodexo is selling its Danish Company. The buyers are four members of the current management in Denmark, and the company takes the name Serwiz - with cooperation, transparency and innovation as key words

Soon, instead of Sodexo, Serwiz will be on the work clothes of more than 600 Sodexo employees in Denmark.

Four senior executives in the Danish part of Sodexo have just completed negotiations with the parent company in France - and bought the local Danish activities, employees and contracts from the French food and facility management services leader, which with 420,000 employees is one of the world's largest companies. The acquisition is effective as of 1 April. Sodexo will continue to operate their global strategic accounts in Denmark through a separate legal entity.

- It is a completely unique opportunity to take over a good and healthy business with some fantastic employees, says Christian Lunner, who changes the title "Country Director" to the title "CEO", while the company in Denmark changes its name from Sodexo to Serwiz.

Christian Lunner is joined as owner of Serwiz by HR Director Kristine Weng Thorvildsen, CFO Ulrika Øksenholt and Director of Sales and Business Development Louise Feldt. They are all part of Sodexo today and they have many years of experience from the Facility Management industry.

An industry facing changes

The establishment of Serwiz takes place at a time when the entire facility management industry is changing. Digitization has only just begun, and sustainability and documentation are becoming increasingly important. Furthermore, COVID-19 has changed and accelerated a number of basic premises. ...

- The Covid-19 crisis has underlined, that business is about People, Planet and Profit. For example, how do we support companies and employees who work from home? And how can we reduce and document the climate impact? The whole industry needs to redefine itself, says Christian Lunner.

For Serwiz, the answers are about agility, openness and cooperation - among other things. They want to be close to the strategic agendas of the customers to ensure that employees thrive and feel good – both the employees at the customers and the employees at Serwiz.

- The future is created in a collaboration. Not least with our customers. We would like to invite our customers to stay close and share our numbers. We would like them to be close to what we do, Christian Lunner emphasizes.

A solid foundation - despite Covid-19 challenges

Like for many companies Covid-19 has had a financial impact for the Danish activities - especially for the services delivered in Copenhagen Airport, which has been affected by the low travel activity.

However, this is not something that gives Christian Lunner or the other colleagues a reason to worry. On the contrary.

- We were swift to react on the pandemic, which means that the economical COVID-19 effect has been taken. We're thus strongly positioned to act in a market, which, hopefully, is moving towards a more normal situation, Christian Lunner explains and continues:

- We have a strong foundation, skilled employees and lots of opportunities in a changing market. We'll maintain a strong cooperation with Sodexo and we're happy and proud about the legacy that's our starting point. We look forward to getting started.

>End of press release<

For further information about Serwiz, please contact CEO Christian Lunner by phone + 45 40 11 49 00.

Facts: Serwiz:

- builds on Sodexo's Danish company, which was established in 1997
- gets 600 employees in Denmark
- is owned by Christian Lunner, Louise Feldt, Ulrika Øksenholt and Kristine Weng Thorvildsen
- offers all services within facility management including food services and cleaning