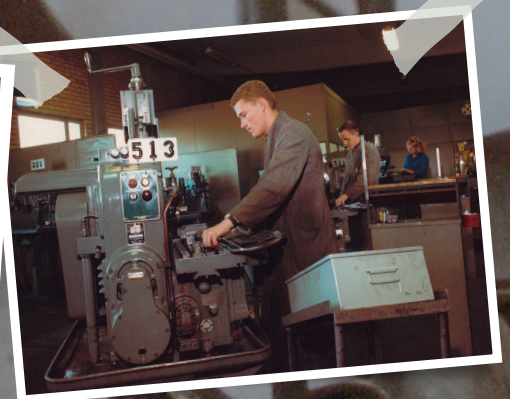


# 60 yr

1959 - 2019





Started in Trångsund  
in 1959



1962 a new factory was  
inaugurated at Öd indu-  
stry park in Kramfors



1975 a new factory  
was inaugurated in  
Brunne, Kramfors



1977 Elpress was acqui-  
red by the investment  
company Karolin Invest

# ELPRESS celebrates

1959 the basis for Elpress was laid in a single basement premises in Stockholm. The founder, Curt Winemar (and his father Per Winemar), saw the conditions for establishment in Ådalen thanks to the industrial structural transformation that was going on there during the 1960s. 1961 the company moved into a makeshift premises in Kramfors.

**T**he company grew and in 1962 Winemars (as the company was called at that time) moved to larger premises in Öd, Kramfors. The company developed and had large expansion plans and in 1975 entirely new premises were built in Brunne, Kramfors, where the business is currently conducted. At that time it was a big venture with large production areas because the assembly machines required large areas and a lot of staff, unlike today when so much is automated. 1977 Elpress was purchased by Karolin Invest and for several years was its own business area within the Nordwin Group. In 2000, Elpress became a separate company again and since 2006 has been owned by the Lagercrantz Group. The market initiatives of the past few years in China, the USA and India have turned out well and have meant that Elpress today is a successful export company with many international contacts. Elpress now celebrates 60 years and has had a fantastic journey and development over the years.

**Share the stories about  
the company's history  
from those who have  
been employed at the  
company longest.**

**ARI KOKKO** was employed at what was then Nordhydraulik on 13th June 1974. From the outset he operated the automatic lathe, then he serviced crimping tools for a few years.



"For the last thirty-five years I have worked as a tool maker and been responsible for wire EDM. It is a fun and varied job, where we provide our own industry with tools. This can be anything from developing a completely new tool to a new kind of cable terminal, to repairing tools that we use for manufacturing," he says.

This summer Ari will have been with Elpress for 45 years.

The fact that Ari has spent so many years at Elpress is a lot to do with the fine community of colleagues.

"There are several of us who have worked together for many years, and this creates a special affinity," says Ari. The work has also been very varied and free, which has also contributed to my enjoyment at Elpress.

"The tool making department is mostly like it was at the start, the time clock has been digitised but otherwise we maintain as high quality now as we did then," he continues. Some modern machines have of course also been introduced to the business.

**1976** Olov Tjernberg was employed at Elpress and is now into his 43rd year at the company.



"I've been a tool maker almost all the time. It is an interesting job that is a lot about collaboration and problem solving, no two days are the same" he says.

There have been many good laughs over the years and one in particular he remembers very clearly.

"We had built a new machine and it was ready on a Friday. Because the CEO was coming by to inspect the machine on the Monday, someone was tasked to paint it over the weekend. What the poor chap did not know was that someone changed the paint pot from the usual metallic paint we use for our machines to a cream window colour. The foreman was not happy but the rest of us laughed a lot and the machine remained white for years," he says.

Little has changed in the tool making department.

"We still use some drawings that were here when I started. Organisationally it has changed a lot and in the other operations, processes have been digitised and automated, but in the tool making department we still perform a craft", he states.

1981 – 2000 Elpress was a business area within the Nordwin Group

1996 the Nordwin group was purchased by Atle

2000 Elpress became its own company together with the subsidiaries Elpress A/S and Elpress GmbH

2003 Elpress acquires Kablema komponent

2006 Elpress is acquired by the Lagercrantz Group

2007 Elpress Beijing, China is created



2016 Elpress Inc., USA is created



# 60 years



Construction of the new factory in Brunne.

**STEFAN SJÖDIN** has been employed at Elpress the longest, more precisely since 25th June 1973, i.e. 46 years.



"I started as a milling machine operator down at the old Winemars factory in Öd. In 1975 we moved to the current premises. For many years I was in the tool making department, but since 1996 I have been working as a production developer to develop new machines for our own production. The tasks also include servicing, maintenance and repair.

One of my memories is when the Swedish King and Queen visited.

"I don't remember exactly what year it was but I remember that we had purpose built a wagon that the royal couple would sit in when they went through the factory behind a forklift. The best forklift drivers were very fast and so for safety we added a block of wood under the accelerator so that it would not go too quickly. I also remember that the Queen had a yellow dress and a yellow hat and that she waved to us as they rolled by", says Stefan.

The working environment has become much better over the years he thinks.

"It was crowded and hot at the beginning I remember. There is still some noise, but we protect ourselves better today. Much of the manual hand pick jobs have been replaced with automated processes", says Stefan.

**INGRID WANSU-LIN**

has worked at Elpress For 42 years, since 1977. During her first years she stood at a lathe, but at the beginning of the 1980s she ended up at the warehouse, which then was located in Brunne.



"A large part of the job was to weigh the cable terminals and to help me I had small shop scales. I remember how initially we made the labels ourselves and that it was a very fiddly job, where we first had to ink and set the type blocks with tweezers and then hand-crank the labels. In other words, a big difference from today when everything is digitized," says Ingrid.

In 2007 the warehouse moved to the current premises in Frånö.

"Of course there are times when I am still at the packing table but today I am responsible for planning custom orders for Samhall so there is also a lot of time in front of the computer and I also do some purchasing.

A lot of the manual work has been automated," Ingrid says.

"But we're still just as keen that the right customer should get the right things, it is just as important now as it was back then," she says.

**WHEN** Lillemor Karlstedt was hired at Nordhydraulic on 6th May 1974 she started in the workshop with various tasks.



"In 1976 I started as a setter, I prepared the machines for use. I worked in the tool making department for several years. We had a lot of fun and I remember that the boys appreciated that I often brought buns to work. At the same time that my first child was born the doctors told me that I had an allergy to nickel, so after my maternity leave I studied so that I could come back to an office job", she remembers.

Since 1987 Lillemor has worked in the design department.

"When I started, people used a drawing board, you stuck down a sheet of paper and drew with a pencil and ruler. In 1989 we started digital drawing in Auto-cad up until 2003 when we moved over to Solid Works.

These days Lillemor develops custom drawings and tenders.

"When I started here, the computer barely existed, today all work is done in front of a screen, so there has been a big change there. What has not changed is how eager we are for customers to get what they request and that we always do our utmost to meet our customers' expectations," she says.

After 45 years, it is really time for Lillemor to retire.

"But I refuse to stop! I enjoy it and it is still fun to go to work every day so I'll start by reducing my hours a bit," she says.