Preface

This book is the result of extensive fieldwork that could not have been completed without the most generous support from a great number of individuals, all of whom have devoted substantial time sharing their insights and knowledge with us. Many have also spent even more hours checking and double-checking the accuracy of the voluminous and complex empirical materials that form the heart of the book. For all these dedicated, unreserved and thorough contributions, we express our deepest gratitude.

This publication is the outcome of an ongoing research programme called ‘Corporate Governance in Financial Capitalism’, which is led by Sven-Erik Sjöstrand at the Stockholm School of Economics’ Centre for Management Studies. Handelsbankens forskningsstiftelser generously provided funding for this programme. Additional support for this particular project was given by Fjärde AP-fonden, Alecta, Foundation for Economics and Law, and the Stockholm School of Economics.

We also owe a great many thanks to Professor Lars Östman for reading the manuscript and providing advice, particularly regarding the empirical material, and to Professor Erik Nerep for checking the parts of this text that address the Swedish Companies Act and related legislation and regulations (Chs 1 and 2). We would also like to thank Ingrid Kollberg for her assistance in the production of the manuscript, and Karyn McGettigan for her extensive professional language editing and advice.

The responsibility for all the contents of this book, of course, remains with the authors.

Markus Kallifatides
Sophie Nachemson-Ekwall
Sven-Erik Sjöstrand

Stockholm, June 2009