

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Stockholm, Sweden – January 2026**

## Optilon appoints Mikael Ahlström as new CEO

Optilon announces the appointment of Mikael Ahlström as its new Chief Executive Officer, marking the start of the company's next phase of strategic growth. The transition follows more than fifteen years of close collaboration, during which Mikael has served as a trusted advisor to the board and leadership team.

With a rare combination of deep technical expertise, strong business acumen, and a holistic strategic perspective, Mikael Ahlström steps into the role at a time when supply chain, AI-driven planning, and resilient operations are becoming increasingly important for Nordic companies.

Before joining Optilon, Mikael served as CEO of Net Result AB and Director of Business Development at Know IT. He also founded United Vanning, a consultancy focused on architecture and implementation for complex business and IT environments. Most recently, he held the CIO role at Stabelo, where he helped build and refine their development processes and platforms.

As part of the transition, former CEO Richard Barkevall will remain within the company at a strategic capacity. After more than two decades leading Optilon's development and customer-facing work, Richard will continue contributing to areas such as partnerships, innovation, and the further evolution of Optilon's supply chain offering.

Richard Barkevall comments:

*— Over the past 20 years, Optilon has evolved from a value-added reseller and consulting-focused business into a company that also develops its own software and platforms. As supply chain has become increasingly strategic and technology-driven, this feels like a natural moment to hand over the CEO role. I'm very proud of what we have built together and pleased to welcome Mikael as the next CEO. With his deep experience in product development and technology-led transformation, he is exceptionally well suited to lead Optilon into its next phase. Going forward, I'm excited to continue supporting the company by sharing my long-term perspective, experience, and energy—working closely with teams, customers and partners as Optilon continues to grow.*

Mikael Ahlström comments:

*— Supply chain has moved from an operational concern to a board-level priority. Optilon is uniquely positioned at the intersection of strategy, technology, and execution, and I'm excited to lead the company into its next phase. Our focus will be on helping customers build resilient,*

*data-driven supply chains—combining world-class expertise with modern platforms and AI-enabled planning.*

The appointment underlines Optilon's commitment to providing independent, best-in-class solutions for supply chain management—supporting organizations in building resilient, data-driven, and future-proof supply chains.

Mikael Ahlström assumed his role as CEO on January 3, 2026.

***About Optilon***

*Optilon is a leading independent supply chain partner with over 20 years of experience. The company specializes in identifying, selecting, and integrating the best solutions to optimize supply chain strategies. With over 1,000 completed projects for 200+ clients, Optilon continues to drive innovation and efficiency in supply chain management. Learn more at [www.optilon.com](http://www.optilon.com).*

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