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## Unique EasyDrive joystick completes Ålö's pioneering LCS loader control system

**Now, at last, an affordable electronic alternative to mechanical front loader operation has arrived. For the discerning farmer who wants all the advantages of the 'simple-to-use' electronic joystick, but who does not require all of the functions available with full electronics. This is achieved through Ålö's new thumb-controlled EasyDrive joystick, the first of its kind in the industry. This latest development completes Ålö's revolutionary LCS valve system.**

"Yet again, we are setting a whole new standard — tractor owners can now choose electronic control instead of mechanical cable controls, at a reasonable price," says Urban Hadarsson, Sales & Marketing Director at Ålö.

The new EasyDrive offers advantages both in terms of ergonomics and ease of driving for tractor owners who want to modernise their front loader operation. EasyDrive has the same functions as the mechanical variant with the same excellent driving qualities.

"The electronic thumb-controlled joystick gives a different, softer feel and provides a vastly improved way of operating the front loader. Ergonomics have been key to this development, with driving movements now only requiring small thumb movements, instead of moving your whole arm. Of particular note is the fact that EasyDrive is integrated with the driver's seat, saving space, and meaning that the operator and joystick "fit together", to maximise driving comfort," says Kenneth Granberg, Product Manager and Area Manager at Ålö.

EasyDrive completes Ålö's unique LCS valve program, the first and only valve system developed specifically for front loaders.

"Of course we are delighted that as market leaders we now can take this step and introduce a quality, affordable electronic joystick alternative," finishes Urban Hadarsson.

The world leading Ålö develops and produces front loaders under the Quicke and Trima brand names and also associated implements. The group has sales companies in eight countries and factories in five countries. Sales for the year 2009 amounted to about 23,400 front loaders and 35,200 implements, total sales was 1 500 MSEK. There is a total of about 600 people working in the group. The main owner is the international private equity company 3i.

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*Picture 1: EasyDrive 1*

*Picture 2: EasyDrive 2*

*Picture 3: Urban Hadarsson, Försäljnings- och Marknadsdirektör Ålö AB*

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Read more about Ålö on [www.alo.se](http://www.alo.se), and the Quicke products on [www.quicke.nu](http://www.quicke.nu) and the Trima products on [www.trima.se](http://www.trima.se)