Press Release

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More than one watermark on 100 kronor notes

Press reports of forged banknotes and a new watermark prompt the Riksbank to draw attention to the design of the current 100 kronor notes.

A new type of 100 kronor note was put into circulation by the Riksbank at the turn of 1996. On these notes the watermark is imprinted in the blank field in a continuous process, which means that the field may contain a part or the whole of more than one watermark. This continuous process is also used for the 20 and 50 kronor notes.

The earlier type of 100 kronor note has what is known as a positioned watermark, which means that the blank field only contains one complete watermark. This type of watermark is also used for the 500 and 1000 kronor notes.

"The change has to do with production technology; printing a continuous watermark is simpler," Mr. Tom Dagne, Deputy Head of Department, says.

Both types of note are legal tender but as notes of the earlier type become worn, they will be replaced by notes of the new type.

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SVERIGES RIKSBANK