



**Ready:** Brovold's flat is made ready at the prefabricated modules factory Kodumaja in Southern-Estonia. PHOTO: KODUMAJA



**Sea route:** Blocks from Estonia come to Molde by boat.



**On their way:** Modules are being transported from the port to the construction site in Fuglsetvegen.



**Becoming a block of flats:** One after another, the modules are being put in place in the block of flats.



## Report

Anita Vingen Kjell Langmyren (photo)

## Here comes Ivar's "place"

Ivar's flat hangs above the pier. A short time after, the module is "screwed into place" in a new building in Fuglsetvegen.

Cont. next page >>>

## MODULES FROM ESTONIA BECOME FLATS IN FUGLSETVEGEN

**Logistics:** After five days of transport from Tallinn to Molde, a whole block of flats is being unloaded. Module after module is lifted from the ship's hold – here is No. 039, which will be half of Ivar Brovold's flat.



**Inside:** Ivar Brovold is looking around the flat for the first time. The two modules together make up a two-room flat of 60 sq. meters. "It's just right," Brovold reckons.



**As ordered:** The hot-water tank was placed elsewhere – just as Brovold wished.



**The kitchen:** As ordered, only the appliances are missing.



**Installation:** Still some things to do.



**Electricity:** Many ready-to-use sockets – and many loose wires.

**MOLDE:** "Wow, there it comes!" Ivar Brovold comments. Module No. 39, packed in plastic, is on its way up from the ship's hold, hanging in the mobile crane straps and being placed on the pier very carefully.

**In the air.** Together with Project Manager Harald Thynes and Romsdals Budstikke, house buyer Brovold is standing in the port at Moldegård on a somewhat chilly afternoon in the middle of February in order to "receive" his flat.

The sea was smooth, and the ship docked the evening before after its five-day trip from Tallinn, Estonia as planned.

Module after module is now being hoisted from the freight ship to waiting trucks that will immediately drive up the hill to Fuglsetvegen.

**From Estonia.** Everything has gone according to plan: ground work was finished as planned and Kodumaja, the prefabricated modules factory in Estonia that produces prefabricated housing modules non-stop, delivers as ordered – in fact, currently for several projects in Molde. This winter, many people have noticed trucks loaded with prefabricated modules wrapped in plastic driving from the pier to prepared construction sites next to the college at Kvam, and to the blocks in Fuglsetvegen. Ivar Brovold has been observing this somewhat unusual traffic with special interest.

"They are driving past where I work, so it is impossible not to notice it," he says. Soon, it will be his flat on the back of the truck.

**A secret look.** Project Manager Harald Thynes from Planor walks up to the module on the pier, pokes a small hole in the plastic, and lets the home buyer Ivar Brovold take a first look at what will soon be his flat. Inside the plastic cover are ready-made rooms: a living room and a kitchen, a bedroom, and a tiled bathroom.

The two modules were soon loaded onto the next truck, driven to Fuglsetvegen, and hoisted into place in the prefabricated module building that is being erected.

"They are driving past where I work, so it is impossible not to notice it," he says. Soon, it will be his flat on the back of the truck.

Brovold's flat is the middlemost on the first floor – in a few days, we can stroll in and get the first impression.

**Inside.** Ivar Brovold goes inside and takes a look at his future 60-square-metre flat. The living room is full of sunlight and has a good view.

"So it's that big, yes. Good," he nods. "This is going to be great. It is going to be great to get to move in and have your own place and end nomadic life," Brovold smiles.

In the past year, he has been living with his brother in Eide, and for a while at his parents' "cottage-flat" in the city.



**Started eight months ago:** Romsdals Budstikke, 20 June 2012.

**Block of flats in a boat.** The block of flats that Brovold will move into is made up of 25 modules with a total weight of 312 tons. The size of the flats varies from 60 to 150 sq. metres. Most of the modules are 14–15 tons, the heaviest of them up to 22 tons. One block, one shipload.

The parquet flooring of the new "place" is yet covered with paper, wires are waiting to be connected, and doors are still lying unpacked on the floor. A good deal of work is still to be done by both Estonian workers and the many local craftsmen who are working with the two buildings.

**Jigsaw puzzle.** The manufacturer Kodumaja has about 15 men working in Fuglsetvegen, who are responsible for the final assembly of modules and the installation of porches and galleries, as well as finishing the exterior in other ways.

The facade will consist of a combination of weatherboarding and boards, just like architect Kjell Kosberg designed it. Facade work will be done on site.

Local plumbers, electricians, decorators and tinsmiths work on the connections – completing the outside area also means extensive work.

"It is a demanding jigsaw puzzle, but everything is going right," Thynes asserts.

He has positive experiences with modular construction and believes that this a building form that will become increasingly more important.

For Brodal and other people who have bought a flat in the prefabricated module block, a new chapter will start at the beginning of June, when the keys are handed over.