Feedback from recent conflicts has confirmed that operational requirements are changing. Users of airborne platforms have also recognized this trend and are themselves imposing appropriate demands on equipment and systems suppliers. Users no longer want a specific aircraft for each operational role. They require a multi-role platform that is capable of undertaking all roles (Air-to-Air, Air-to-Ground, maritime strike and reconnaissance).

Gripen has been developed to meet a wide range of operational requirements which include a variety of missions. The multi-role capability of Gripen and its ability to change roles in the air at the press of a button results in a unique swing-role, multi-mission flexibility.

To fulfill the various missions that Gripen could be asked to undertake, the fighter has a variety of stores integrated and freedom of choice when it comes to the nationality of the weapons supplier. The customer has the choice to match Gripen together with stores from the United States of America, Europe and other regions of the world, or from indigenous suppliers.