Africa's premier aerospace and defence exhibition, Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD), kicks off this Wednesday 19 September 2018. I am excited to see the very best defence products, services and experiences on display, right here on Saab's doorstep in Centurion.

We will have a strong presence at this premium event, including hosting a series of
Our Youth Development Programme in the main exhibition hall stand will enable visitors to learn more about Saab, our innovations and the various career opportunities that are available in the defence industry – primarily geared towards engineering with Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics as the main focus.

If you would like more information than what is shared here, please don't hesitate to contact me or my team to put you in touch with the relevant person to answer your questions.

My colleagues and I hope that you enjoy AAD as much as we do – and that you find it a valuable experience that equips you with the knowledge and insights you hoped it would!

Regards
Trevor

President and CEO of Saab Grintek Defence
Head of CU SSA Saab Group

Saab continues to invest in developing technology that extends the service life of its iconic Gripen aircraft, with the latest operational upgrade and combat enhancement, MS20 putting a truly unique operational asset into the hands of Gripen operators.

The MS20 upgrade delivers a host of new capability options for air-to-air, air-to-surface and ISTAR missions plus many improved mission systems and other changes. As ever with Gripen, operators are free to choose how, when and to what extent they implement the new capabilities that the upgrade enables.

Gripen’s ISTAR (intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition and reconnaissance) capabilities are expanded through a modified reconnaissance pod that provides infra-red
Furthermore, significant new advances mean that Gripen is now the world’s first and only combat aircraft to be operational with the MBDA Meteor BVRAAM missile, a capability that can be retrofitted into C and D models, as well as the E model currently in design.

“Gripen is developed with the long-term future in mind, with a focus on extending service life as far as possible,” says Mats Lundberg, Senior Marketing Executive for Gripen in the Middle East and Africa. “It is designed for continuous upgrades to take on and defeat new combat challenges. MS20 opens a further chapter in this story, making significant new capabilities available to future users and the current Gripen family alike.”

Air traffic control has evolved beyond being a fixed tower at each airport to achieving distributed situational awareness through digital air traffic management, achieved via the Saab Smart Airport solution.

Saab’s modular-based Air Traffic Management (ATM) and airport system is a family of user-friendly systems that reflects safety and reliability standards. It is built to suit all environments, from regional to international airports, and moves Airport Terminal Services (ATS) from a single tower per airport, to creating the ability to offer ATS from any location.

The system works stand-alone or as an integrated ATM and airport system, makes way for collaborative decision making (CDM), and users can add modules when needed for future expansion.

Saab’s ATM offering also includes a wide range of products and services for tower operations, navigation aids, training, landing procedures, and flight inspection. Building on experience from both Saab and LFV (the Swedish Air Navigation Service Provider), Saab Digital Air Traffic Solutions has developed models and processes for establishing new digital tower solutions.
“Going from a conventional tower operation to a digital solution digitalizes the eyes of the controllers and allows for that information to be shared with all stakeholders, enabling an increase in efficiency and productivity,” explains David Shomar, Vice President of Civil Security, MENA Region at Saab.

“The digital tower and the centre will also open up new, more flexible business models for Air Navigation Service Providers and airports around the world. With several Digital Tower solutions already in play worldwide, our team is well positioned to manage the certification and safety requirements associated with the installation of such a game-changing solution.”

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**Operational confidence through safe training and simulation**

Saab’s comprehensive GAMER Manpack command and control (C2) system, training and simulation can safely exercise teams in real-life operational situations.

The portable, instantly deployable instrumented training system uses a nimble wireless system to connect many players in an integrated and responsive environment.

Ideally suited for police and special forces, the simulator facilitates training in civilian emergency preparedness, response training, power plant protection and Coast Guard harbour protection.

“The system is especially useful to highly mobile forces as the coverage shifts with the players and action,” says Ufukumele Moeti at Saab. “It’s designed to flow and shift with the nucleus or area of interest of the training exercise as the Manpack control device is designed to be worn by a controller, observer or carried in a support vehicle.”

The system comprises a ruggedised exercise command-and-control (ECC) laptop and a miniaturised radio base station and is optimised to support up to approximately 120 real-time players.

Alongside this is a Command and Control (C2) node and the players are linked via man-
A powerful Windows-based suite of exercise-control tools enable on-the-spot control of field-simulated indirect fires, minefields, nuclear/biological/chemical (NBC) contamination, improvised explosive devices (IED) and reactive targets. Exercise players are displayed in 3D against a high-resolution 2D or 3D terrain background, providing a detailed real-time situational view of the training flow and individual events.

A during-action review/after-action review (DAR/AAR) can be readily conducted at any time using the display screen for a small group or hooked up to a projector for a larger audience.

Saab company Vricon uses advances in remote sensing to provide decision-makers with new answers to key national security and civil defence questions.

Using high-resolution 3D data, Vricon’s GeoRef solution allows analysts to automatically correlate multiple data sets with a high degree of geospatial accuracy in all dimensions and create actionable intelligence from disparate sources.

Vricon’s 3D surface models and precise digital elevations enhance GEOINT data—covering the globe to support preparation, rehearsal, and execution. 3D models provide a foundation to correlate information layers, while True Ortho provides lucidity into inaccessible and dense urban areas. This helps warfighters find safe, efficient routes.

Surface models are not just essential tools for military and defence requirements – they can help emergency services quickly compare post-disaster imagery with those taken before the event, to assist with recovery and rebuilding programmes.

From a more commercial point of view, telecommunications service providers need
Increasing demand for video, 5G and the Internet of Things requires denser networks, which in turn increases demand for accurate, high-resolution geodata.

“Vricon combines Saab’s unique 3D technology and know-how with DigitalGlobe’s unrivalled archive which contains billions of square kilometres of the world’s highest quality commercial satellite imagery,” explains Tommy Hultin, Senior Director of Business Development at Vricon.

“This creates an unparalleled geospatial capability and enables the production of The Globe in 3D at an extremely rapid rate and significantly reduced cost.

The Saab Medav CRS-Submarine is an integrated system for tactical Communications Electronic Support Measures (C-ESM) tasks on submarines. It uses C-ESM and Communication Intelligence (COMINT) in addition to Radar ESM (R-ESM) and Electronic Intelligence (ELINT) to enhance situational awareness.

The submarine system supports surfacing decisions with a Comms Warning Receiver (CWR) and processes surfacing information within minutes. It also creates a complete picture of the surroundings using radio monitoring, with information being further processed during dive time.

The Saab Medav Technologies C-ESM and COMINT is an integrated radio reconnaissance mobile system suitable for both strategic and tactical applications and offers complete surveillance coverage. The system is modular, scalable and flexible, allowing for updates, upgrades and integration of other functionalities as demand dictates.

The system is delivered as a set of stations housed within ruggedised racks to face the rigors of the harsh naval environment. A single control system and intuitive user interface make it easy to use – even suitable for nonexpert operators deployed in remote locations.
One of the main benefits of the Saab Medav Technologies CRS-Naval ship-based system is its ability to evaluate speech and data communication signals in the operational theatre, enabling situational awareness, force protection and improved mission effectiveness.

The Saab Medav Technologies CRS-Naval ship-based system comprises automatic signal detection, classification, demodulation, decoding, recording, listen-in functionality, direction finding and geolocating of radio emitters in the High Frequency (HF) and Very/Ultra/Super High Frequency (VUSHF) frequency bands. Attended (manned) operation is also supported.

It is also Wi-Fi compatible, and handles analogue and digital transmission methods, including fast frequency hoppers. The system includes comprehensive online and offline analysis, as well as being able to generate signal reports for further detailed analysis.