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SOUTH AFRICA'S GRINTEK SELECTED IN US\$4,3-MILLION GRIPEN COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM CONTRACT

South African high technology company Grintek Electronics Systems has been selected to supply communications units for the advanced swing-role Gripen fighter.

The US\$4,3-million order requires Grintek to supply units for incorporation into the Gripen's audio management system. This order specifically covers the manufacture, delivery and installation of the units for Swedish Air Force Gripen fighters to be delivered from 2002 onwards.

Grintek's contract follows a previous order it secured in October 1998 for the development and delivery of Audio Management System prototypes. The international export version of Gripen will be equipped with an Audio Management System based on Grintek's GUS 1000 system which was developed in South Africa.

This latest order forms part of Saab and BAE SYSTEMS' seven year US\$1.5-billion DIP commitment linked to South Africa's purchase of 28 Gripen fighters and 24 Hawk lead-in fighter trainer aircraft.

To date Saab and BAE SYSTEMS have placed DIP contracts with South African companies which are acknowledged by the South African Government to be worth more than US\$800-million.

Notes on Gripen:

Gripen is the world's only fourth-generation multi-role/swing-role fighter in active service. It is produced and marketed internationally by a joint-venture company owned equally by Sweden's Saab and the UK's BAE SYSTEMS.

Designed to meet all known and perceived 21st century defence threats, Gripen is the only fighter in service today with designed-in easy maintenance and low operating costs. Gripen is unique as an operational fighter that combines high performance and outstanding manoeuvrability with a fully integrated digital information system, precision engagement weapons and advanced reconnaissance capabilities for the future air war.

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www.gripen.se