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Saab to develop large autonomous underwater vehicle for Sweden

Saab has signed a contract with the Swedish Defence Materiel Administration (FMV) for a larger uncrewed underwater vehicle. The order value amounts to SEK 60 million.

The goal of the project, led by FMV, is to develop a concept for a larger uncrewed underwater vehicle, known as a Large Uncrewed Undersea Vehicle (LUUV). Saab is the prime contractor for the LUUV and will be responsible for the design, construction, and testing of the vehicle.

Saab's autonomous control system, Autonomous Ocean Core, which provides autonomous capabilities for vessels on and below the water surface, will be integrated into the vehicle's systems. The first sea trials are planned for the summer of 2026.

"It is gratifying that together with FMV and the Swedish Armed Forces, we have the opportunity to work quickly and together to develop a new advanced system in a short time. At Saab we get to demonstrate our ability to deliver systems that are both effective and adapted to current and future challenges. The project makes it possible to create innovative solutions that can bring significant progress in underwater technology and fit well with Saab's already ongoing development work in autonomy," said Mats Wicksell, head of Saab's business area Kockums.

The need to monitor and map the seabed infrastructure and to detect and deter threats beneath the surface is significant. The LUUV will be a sensor platform developed to have various capabilities. It will serve as a decision support tool for operators and will not be designed to carry weapons in the first phase.

Saab is a leading defence and security company with an enduring mission, to help nations keep their people and society safe. Empowered by its 25,000 talented people, Saab constantly pushes the boundaries of technology to create a safer and more sustainable world. Saab designs, manufactures and maintains advanced systems in aeronautics, weapons, command and control, sensors and underwater systems. Saab is headquartered in Sweden. It has major operations all over the world and is part of the domestic defence capability of several nations.

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