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Saab showcases full-scale uncrewed aircraft concept

Saab showcases a concept model for a future uncrewed combat air system during the Swedish Armed Forces Air Show.

At the Jubilee Air Show at Malmen Air Base in Linköping, Sweden, Saab is showcasing a full-scale concept model of a future uncrewed combat air system. The concept, called A3-001, illustrates the possible evolution of future combat air capabilities, where crewed and uncrewed platforms operate together as part of an integrated system.

The uncrewed platform builds on Saab's long tradition of aerospace innovation and could complement Gripen and future crewed combat air capabilities. The concept is envisioned for high-risk missions, such as electronic warfare, suppression of enemy air defences, and precision strike operations in highly contested environments. With low observability, a high degree of autonomy, and the ability to operate across multiple domains, the concept illustrates a potential component of a future combat air capability.

"We are currently in an intensive development phase where, together with Sweden, we are exploring technologies that will lay the foundation for the next generation of combat air systems. As part of this work, we intend to fly uncrewed demonstrators with fighter-like characteristics before 2030 as we support Sweden in considering their future options," says Peter Nilsson, head of business unit Advanced Programs at Saab. "This separate Saab A3 system is our own concept for what could follow in the mid-2030s should Sweden decide to build on the work we are currently doing. Saab is well positioned to develop the next generation of combat air systems building on Gripen and GlobalEye, combined with our long experience in advanced aerospace systems."

The full-scale concept model is on public display during the Swedish Armed Forces Air Show and illustrates a potential future uncrewed component within a future system-of-systems approach to air warfare.

Saab is a leading defence and security company with an enduring purpose, to help nations keep their people and society safe. Empowered by its 28,000 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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