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CLIENT:	DSA EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE		
PUBLICATION:	MALAYSIANDIGEST.COM	SECTION:	NEWS
DATE:	TUESDAY, 19 APRIL 2016	PAGE NO.:	1 OF 1
CIRCULATION:	ONLINE	FREQUENCY:	ONLINE
HEADLINE:	SAAB OFFERS LEASE PACKAGE FOR GRIPEN JETS		

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Saab Offers Lease Package For Gripen Jets

Details Published on Tuesday, 19 April 2016 20:05



Swedish aerospace company, Saab, has drawn up a better deal to offer the Gripen fighter jets to Malaysia via a lease package.

"Saab now combined advanced technology, operational effectiveness in a cost-efficient solution that is difficult to be beaten by anyone," said its Vice-President/Head of Saab Malaysia, Thomas Linden.

As Malaysia has a requirement to replace the MiG-29 aircraft, Saab is now offering 16 of its newly-built Gripen-C and -D version jet fighters.

"The performance-based lease solution for the 16 aircraft guaranteed flight hours, unrestricted operational use, and we will set up complete logistics solutions, locally here in Malaysia," he told Bernama on the second day of the 15th Defence Services Asia 2016 Exhibition and Conference (DSA 2016) here Tuesday.

"Gripen is like three fighters in one...capable of performing an extensive range of air-to-air, air-to-surface and reconnaissance missions employing the most modern range of weapons.

"We believe our Gripen offer is the best in terms of cost effectiveness," he said.

Linden added that the leasing deal offer also included a technology transfer programme to build up local industry and a local maintenance, repairs and operations solution.

The Royal Malaysian Air Force currently has a multi-role combat aircraft replacement programme to replace the MiG-29 and F-5 fighters that will be retired by end-2015.

- Bernama