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PRESS INFORMATION

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Saab 2000 flying at home

After eight years with a number of different operators on three continents, the time has finally come for the Saab 2000 to fly regular routes from Linköping.

"We think it's great, but also that it's time that the Saab 2000 came home," says Michael Grahn, PR and information officer at Saab Aircraft Leasing. "The Linköping airport offers major potential with its central location in the county, and we naturally hope to see Saab 2000s over Linköping more often in the future. Here on our home field we also offer extensive technical expertise through Saab Aircraft, which is attractive to the airlines."

For two weeks in November, City Airline's daily route to Gothenburg and then on to London Gatwick and Manchester will be flown by a Saab 2000 from Golden Air (Golden Air normally flies Saab 2000s out of Finland, between Helsingfors and Stuttgart). Because of the Saab 2000's high speed, the jet that normally flies the routes can easily be replaced with no major scheduling changes.

"The Saab 2000 could be an opportunity for us," says Tom Ericsson, CEO of City Airline. "The plane flies almost as fast as a jet, but it can land on smaller airfields, which means that it can fly to more destinations. That's why we're taking a good look at the Saab 2000 as a supplement, and are looking forward to passenger reactions over the two weeks that Golden Air will be flying the Saab 2000."

Saab Aircraft Leasing is a part of the Saab Aviation Services business segment, and manages a portfolio of some 300 Saab 340s and 2000s, which are leased to 28 airlines worldwide. SAL has 38 employees and is headquartered in Washington DC, with regional offices in Stockholm, Tokyo and Sydney.

Saab is one of the world's leading high-technology companies, with its main operations focusing on defense, aviation and space. Saab covers a broad spectrum of competence and capabilities in systems integration.

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