



**Press Release
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Ericsson Saab Avionics selected for avionics upgrade of Spanish F-18

Ericsson Saab Avionics AB, Sweden, has been awarded a contract from Kaiser Electronics, USA, to provide a digital solid-state recorder (DiRECT) to the Spanish fighter aircraft EF-18A/B.

Deliveries to CASA Spain, responsible for the aircraft upgrade, will start early next year. The order including options is valued at 6.7 MUSD (65 MSEK).

DiRECT is included in a Mid-Life Upgrade (MLU) program of the EF-18A/B and will replace the current analogue tape recorder.

The DiRECT high-performance, rugged, solid-state, multi-channel, digital recorder is termed CARE (Comprehensive Aircraft Recording Equipment) in the EF-18A/B.

It features a recording time of two hours of four video channels, audio and data. The all-digital system gives an outstanding information quality, great recording dynamics and direct access information retrieval.

The system includes in-flight playback, mission planning data transfer and supplementary maintenance data recording.

Ericsson Saab Avionics is also in an advanced stage of development for an integrated version of the DiRECT to the JAS 39 Gripen.

Ericsson Saab Avionics AB is owned jointly by Ericsson and Saab and is the principal supplier of electronic systems to the Gripen fourth-generation fighter.

Kaiser Electronics, a division of Kaiser Aerospace & Electronics, is a leading supplier of display systems and the display system integrator of the Spanish EF-18A/B Mid-Life Upgrade (MLU) program.

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