

Saab to cooperate with Czech radar maker ERA

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Bratislava, May 10 (CTK) - Swedish engineering company **Saab** and Czech radar producer ERA have signed an agreement on cooperation in the area of research and development of **air** defence technologies, the companies said at today's International Defence Exhibition Bratislava (IDEB).

The partnership of **Saab** and ERA will also include calling a tender for 3D Mobile **Air** Defence Radars (MADR) for the Czech Republic, the companies stated.

The Defence Ministry plans to buy the MADR type radars for roughly Kc3.6bn via an agreement with another government. The possible candidates are Israel, Britain, Sweden and France, according to earlier information.

The new radars are supposed to replace Russian products which are significantly outdated. The equipment will detect targets between 100 to 3,000 metres above ground level. Maintenance of the radars will cost about Kc200m a year.

ERA has been owned by arms group Omnipol since 2011. Its turnover grew twofold to Kc903m in the last financial year and its gross profit went up from Kc100m to Kc301m. The company employs over 300 people.

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