



HQ AC Ramstein

Headquarters Allied Air Command Ramstein
Public Affairs Office



Fact Sheet

SAAB JAS 39 Gripen

(Source: http://www.milavia.net/aircraft/gripen/gripen_specs.htm)

Role: multi-role fighter

Builder: SAAB Aerospace, (BAE Systems)

Variants: JAS 39A, JAS 39B, JAS 39C, JAS 39D

Operators: Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, South Africa



The JAS 39 Gripen is a small, agile and lightweight fighter design for multiple roles in the Royal Swedish Air Force. JAS stands for Jagt-Attack-Spaning meaning Fighter-Attack-Reconnaissance. The Gripen (Griffon) design features canards positioned close in front of the delta wing. It is powered by the Volvo licensed built General Electric F404-GE-400 engine. The airframe structure incorporates light but extremely strong composite materials. It has a modern glass cockpit with three multi function displays and a wide-angle HUD. Its easily programmable software and associated systems make the aircraft suitable to configure it for all kinds of mission profiles.

Picture: CZE JAS-39 Gripen taxiing by LTC Schreier CZE AF

The JAS 39A single-seater and the JAS 39B two-seater were the first production aircraft to enter service in the Swedish Air Force in 1997. The improved JAS 39C and two-seat version JAS 39D are the latest production batch. Improvements include air-to-air refuelling capability, NATO weapon pylons, and NATO compatible systems. The export version are also based on the C/D variants. After 2004 Swedish A/B variants will be updated to Batch 3 (C/D) standard.

In 2004 the Czech Republic signed a lease contract for twelve single-seat and two twin-seat Gripen aircraft for a period of 10 years. The aircraft are diverted from the production line destined for the Swedish Air Force for reduced delivery times. The first Czech Gripen made its first flight in November 2004 and will be delivered to the Czech Air Force in April 2005, making the Czech Republic the first NATO operator of the type. The last aircraft is to be delivered in August 2005. The JAS 39 C/D is fully NATO compliant and will fill the gap in the Czech air defense left by the MiG-23/29 disposal and MiG-21 retirement.

Technical Specifications JAS 39A

Powerplant: one 80.5 kN (18,100 lb st) General Electric/Volvo Flygmotor RM12 (F404-GE-400) afterburning turbofan

Dimensions: length 14.10m (46 ft 3 in); height 4.50m (14 ft 9 in); wing span 8.40m (27ft 6½ in)

Weights: empty 6622 kg (14,600 lb); Max Take-Off Weight 12.500 kg (27,560 lb)

Performance: estimated max level speed at 10975m (36,000 ft) Mach 2.0 or 2126 km/h (1321 mph)

Armament: one Mauser MK27 27mm cannon; up to 6500 kg (14,330 lb) of Air-to-Surface Missiles, munitions dispensers, rockets, free-fall bombs, Air-to-Air Missiles including AIM-120 AMRAAM, recce/sensor pods, auxiliary fuel tanks

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