Boeing, Saab Adapt Air Launched Small Bomb for Ground Launch

Test proves effectiveness of new rocket artillery capability

VIDSEL, Sweden, March 10, 2015 – Boeing [NYSE: BA] and Saab [Stockholm: SAAB] have proven that Boeing's Small Diameter Bomb I, originally developed for use by aircraft, can be adapted for launch from a ground artillery system.

The companies recently tested the Ground Launched Small Diameter Bomb (GLSDB), integrating the SDB I and M26 rocket motor technologies for the Multiple Launch Rocket System. The testing showed that the bomb can withstand a rocket artillery launch without its performance being compromised.

"GLSDB combines two highly successful, combat-proven systems into an effective ground forces offensive capability," said Beth Kluba, vice president, Boeing Weapons and Missile Systems. "Boeing and Saab bring together deep knowledge of precision weapon systems and can quickly and cost-effectively deliver GLSDB domestically and around the world."

GLSDB allows the artillery system to reach targets from significantly longer distances, and engage hard-to-reach targets, while maintaining the Small Diameter Bomb's flight maneuverability and accuracy.

Under a teaming agreement signed last year, Boeing and Saab will offer GLSDB to current and future rocket artillery users. The rocket motor used during testing was provided by Nammo.

"Saab and Boeing have a history of successful cooperation that now extends into yet another technology area – precision weapons systems," said Görgen Johansson, Head of the Dynamics Business Area within Saab AB. "Together, we now offer a new and game-changing capability for the U.S. as well as the global market."

Saab serves the global market with world-leading products, services and solutions within military defence and civil security. Saab has operations and employees on all continents around the world. Through innovative, collaborative and pragmatic thinking, Saab develops, adopts and improves new technology to meet customers' changing needs.

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A feature story and video are online at bit.ly/GLSDBvideo. B-roll video of this event is available to media through the contacts below.

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