

Anti-tank missile alliance

On Tuesday, Turkey's Roketsan and Saab of Sweden signed a memorandum of understanding covering future collaboration on anti-tank missile systems. Roketsan has already developed long-range weapons such as Mizrak-U, while Saab has a long pedigree in the short-range arena, notably with its shoulder-launched range. Under the agreement, the two companies are to develop a cost-effective shoulder-launched system that bridges the short/medium-range gap, with a weapon in the 500-3,000m range class. The new missile will be an extended-range development of Saab's NLAW, which has an effective reach of 600m. Roketsan and Saab are developing the missile primarily for export, because there are as yet no official national requirements. Workshare has yet to be defined. If the companies decide to undertake a demonstration firing, it could be conducted as early as next year.