

Preface

This study is about the macroeconomic effects of positive externalities or industrial spillovers around advanced production. The case explored is the “technology dividend” around Swedish aircraft industry, and in particular around the aircraft manufacturer Saab, and the major industrial project of the JAS 39 Gripen multirole combat aircraft. The project is partly an updating of my book (in Swedish) *Technology Generator or a National Presige Project*¹ from 1995, but extends the analysis in several directions. The study includes a chapter on spillovers from advanced production in an industrially developing economy, South Africa, that has acquired the JAS 39 Gripen for its Air Force. There is also a chapter in which the results for Sweden are discussed in the wider context of advanced public procurement in Europe.

The text has been organized such that the main chapters have been written for academic readers. Two supplements include the technical details of data collection, mathematical models, and calculation methods.

The first chapter is brief and focused on the results. It has the character of an extended executive summary.

The second chapter summarizes the entire story; problems, results, and methods.

This project would not have been possible without the generous support of a number of people. First of all great thanks go to all those people with crowded calendars in Swedish industrial firms that have set aside time to respond to my questions. Most of them have been listed at the end of the book. Several of them have read large parts of, or entire earlier versions of my manuscript, added important insights and helped me weed out a large number of factual errors. Among them, I want to mention Carl-Henrik Arvidsson, Billy Fredriksson and Lennart Källqvist at Saab in particular.

Some of my academic colleagues have also read the manuscript at different stages of completion. Some have been very helpful in going through particular technical aspects of my empirical method. From others, finally, I have benefitted

significantly from brief discussions of particular arguments that I have ventured. On all these counts I want to mention (in alphabetical order) Pontus Braunerhjelm and Anders Broström, both at the KTH Stockholm; Richard Day at USC in Los Angeles; Åsa Hansson, Lund University; Erik Mellander at IFAU in Uppsala; Pierre Mohnen at Merit in Maastricht; Ishaq Nadiri at NYU; Erol Taymaz at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara; Lars Werin earlier at Stockholm University and Clas Wihlborg, Chapman University, Anaheim in particular.

Djursholm, Sweden
January 15, 2010

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<http://www.springer.com/978-1-4419-5848-8>

Advanced Public Procurement as Industrial Policy

The Aircraft Industry as a Technical University

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2010, XXVIII, 312 p. 10 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-4419-5848-8