



COLONEL PEDER SÖDERSTRÖM

Colonel Peder Söderström is the Vice Commander of the Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC) Program's Heavy Airlift Wing (HAW), HDF Pápa Air Base, Hungary. The HAW is the only multinational airlift unit in existence today executing a shared flight hour program by 12 nations (10 NATO and two Partnership for Peace) operating C-17 aircraft. The HAW supports airlift missions for the 12 SAC nations for national, NATO, EU, humanitarian assistance, airdrop and other national requirements. Members of the SAC Program include Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United States.

Colonel Söderström, born and raised in Stockholm, Sweden, entered service in the Swedish Air Force in 1987. After Basic Flying Training, his first assignment was as Fighter pilot, where he flew the SAAB 37 Viggen fighter at the 41st Fighter Squadron, 4th Fighter Wing in Östersund. He remained loyal to that Squadron for quite some time, and ended his service there as Squadron commander. Over the years at the 41st Fighter Squadron, Colonel Söderström also got the opportunity to serve as the Display pilot for the 4th Fighter Wing.



After Senior Staff Course, and a year at the Air Command & Staff College Maxwell AFB, Alabama, where he earned a MD in Military Operational Art and Science, Colonel Söderström did a two year tour in the Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters, And after that he was appointed to the Swedish Defence Material Administration Flight Test Centre as Commander and Gripen Test pilot.

Colonel Peder Söderström was selected for promotion to Colonel 2010, and was assigned as Deputy commander of the Swedish Armed Forces Helicopter Wing the same year.

Colonel Söderström has been deployed to Afghanistan 2013-2014, serving as Director of Staff in the German International Staff of ISAF HQ, Regional Command North, Mazar-e-Sharif.

After completing the deployment to Afghanistan, he assumed command of the Swedish Armed Forces Helicopter Wing from 2014 until 2017.

In preparation for the HAW Vice Commander assignment, Colonel Söderström has studied air traffic pilot license theory and practice. In spring 2019 he completed the C-17 PIQ at Altus AFB.

Colonel Peder Söderström has a former career in Aeronautical Pentathlon and in his spare time he enjoys activities such as cooking, skiing, bikeriding, running, and squash. He is married to Jenny and has three sons, Harald, Alexander, and Victor.