Smart industry
– a strategy for new industrialisation for Sweden

Sweden’s prosperity is built on innovative and successful export companies that time and again have managed to renew and reorganise production and products to keep pace with changing markets. The transformative powers of digitalisation in particular, coupled with the challenges of sustainability, offer great potential for increased competitiveness. It is high time to prioritise the industrial sector.

Mikael Damberg
Minister for Enterprise and Innovation

The Government has taken action to strengthen the development of Swedish industry. Smart industry is a new industrialisation strategy that aims to strengthen the industrial sector’s competitiveness and reinforce Sweden’s position as an attractive location for industrial production.

Sweden will become a world leader in the innovative and sustainable production of goods and services. Sweden’s industrial sector will increase its competitiveness and participation in global value chains, primarily in the high value-added segments.

Sweden – a strong industrial nation
Sweden has a long and successful industrial tradition. The industrial sector and the industrial services sector account for one fifth of the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) and together account for 77 per cent of the total value of Swedish exports.

The industrial sector drives Sweden’s economic growth. It creates jobs and plays a significant role in Sweden’s prosperity and welfare system. Around one million people work in the industrial sector and industrial services sector in Sweden.

Swedish innovations have gained ground throughout the world. Swedish industrial companies have expanded and achieved significant international...
success. The industrial sector’s great capacity for renewal has been a decisive factor in its success.

Four focus areas

The pace of technological development continuously changes the conditions for industrial competitiveness. To remain competitive in a global market, Swedish industry must be at the forefront of the digital transformation and adopt sustainable production methods. Expertise and innovation skills are crucial to achieve this.

The smart industry strategy focuses on enhancing companies’ ability to manage the rapid transformation of Sweden’s industrial sector. Four focus areas have been chosen:

**Industry 4.0** – Companies in Sweden’s industrial sector are to lead the digital transformation and exploit the potential of digitalisation.

**Sustainable production** – Increased resource efficiency, environmental considerations and more sustainable production are to contribute to value creation in the industrial sector, job creation and competitiveness throughout the country.

**Industrial skills boost** – The system for supplying skills at local, regional and national level is to meet the industrial sector’s needs and promote long-term development.

**Testbed Sweden** – Sweden is to be at the forefront of research that contributes to strengthening the country’s industrial production.

From words to action

The smart industry strategy will lay the foundation for a concerted national effort.

The Government will take action to facilitate structural transformation in the industrial sector. The tools will include laws and regulations, investments in enterprise, education and innovation, public procurement and opening up the public sector, providing testbeds and open data.

The strategy is supported by an action plan, which will be published on the Swedish Government website and updated continuously.

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**Read the smart industry strategy at the governments website:**

[www.government.se](http://www.government.se)