CLAIMS:

1. An air intake module for a projectile, comprising a module forward end, a module aft end, and an aft facing intake cone arrangement, wherein:

said module forward end comprises a module forward interface configured for connecting the air intake module to a forward portion of the projectile;

said module aft end comprises a module aft interface configured for enabling the air intake module to be mounted to a propulsion system of the projectile;

said module aft end being longitudinally displaceable with respect to the module forward end between a module stowed configuration and a module deployed configuration, and, wherein in the module stowed configuration the module forward end is at a first longitudinal spacing with respect to the module aft end, wherein in the module deployed configuration the module forward end is at a second longitudinal spacing with respect to the module aft end, and wherein the second longitudinal spacing is greater than the first longitudinal spacing;

said aft facing intake cone arrangement comprising a plurality of intake cone elements, each said intake cone element being pivotably mounted with respect to the module front end and being pivotably movable between a respective open position, corresponding to the module stowed configuration, and a respective closed position, corresponding to the module deployed configuration;

wherein in the open position the intake cone elements are in overlying spatial relationship with respect to the module aft end; and

wherein in the closed position, the intake cone elements are pivoted towards one another to form an aft facing cone structure forward of the module aft end.

2. The air intake module according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of sliding rail elements configured for selectively enabling said module aft end to be

longitudinally displaced with respect to said module forward end between said module stowed configuration and said module deployed configuration.

3. The air intake module according to claim 2, wherein said sliding rail elements are circumferentially spaced from one another around a periphery of the module forward end.

4. The air intake module according to any one of claims 2 to 3, wherein said sliding rail elements are parallel to one another and to a central axis of the air intake module.

5. The air intake module according to any one of claims 2 to 4, including one of the following:

- wherein each sliding rail element is in the form of a rail strut telescopically slidable with respect to a rail strut housing between a respective retracted position and a respective extended position, said rail struts being fixedly connected to the module forward end, and said rail strut housings being fixedly connected to the module aft end;
- wherein each sliding rail element is in the form of a rail strut telescopically slidable with respect to a rail strut housing between a respective retracted position and a respective extended position, said rail struts being fixedly connected to the module forward end, and said rail strut housings being fixedly connected to the module aft end, and, wherein said retracted position corresponds to the module stowed configuration, and wherein the extended position corresponds to the module deployed configuration.

6. The air intake module according to any one of claims 2 to 5, wherein said sliding rail elements comprise spring elements configured for selectively causing the rail struts to be extracted from the respective rail strut housings.

7. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 6, comprising a first locking mechanism having a respective locked configuration in which the air intake module is locked in the module stowed configuration, and a respective unlocked configuration, in which the air intake module can be selectively transitioned from the module stowed configuration to the module deployed configuration.

8. The air intake module according to any one of claims 2 to 7, including at least one of the following:

- said intake module comprising a rail element locking mechanism, having a respective locked configuration in which the sliding rail elements are locked in the extended positions¸ corresponding to the module deployed configuration, and a respective unlocked configuration prior to the rail elements attaining the respective extended positions;
- wherein in the module deployed configuration, the sliding rail elements in extended configuration provide open lateral portals in-between each laterally adjacent pair of said sliding rail elements, thereby providing free fluid communication between an outside environment of the air intake module and an inside of the module aft end.

9. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 8, including at least one of the following:

- wherein each said intake cone element is pivotably mounted with respect to the module forward end about a respective cone element pivot axis;
- wherein said intake cone elements are configured for pivoting at least partially into and through the open lateral portals in the module deployed configuration;
- wherein said intake cone elements are intercalated circumferentially between the sliding rail elements.

10. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 9, including one of the following:

- wherein each intake cone element has a general triangular plan form, including a base, blunted apex, and lateral edges, and defines an imaginary median line between a mid-point of the respective base and a mid-point of the respective blunted apex;
- wherein each intake cone element has a general triangular plan form, including a base, blunted apex, and lateral edges, and defines an imaginary median line between a mid-point of the respective base and a mid-point of the respective blunted apex, and, wherein in said aft facing cone structure adjacent lateral edges of adjacent cone elements are parallel to one another, and wherein the

respective blunted apexes of the cone elements are in proximity to one another, together forming an axial opening.

11. The air intake module according to claim 10, wherein each said cone element pivot axis is orthogonal to the central axis and radially displaced therefrom, and wherein each said cone element pivot axis is orthogonal to a radial line projecting from the central axis and intersecting the median line of the respective intake cone element.

12. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 11, including one of the following:

- wherein the intake cone elements are biased to pivot in direction towards one another;
- wherein the intake cone elements are biased to pivot in direction towards one another, and, wherein each intake cone element comprises a biasing element configured for biasing the intake cone elements to pivot in direction towards one another.

13. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 12, including one of the following:

- wherein the aft facing intake cone arrangement includes a cone element locking arrangement for locking together the intake cone elements in the aft facing cone structure;
- wherein the aft facing intake cone arrangement includes a cone element locking arrangement for locking together the intake cone elements in the aft facing cone structure, and, wherein said cone element locking arrangement includes any suitable mechanical lock.

14. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 13, further comprising a propulsion system accommodated in said module aft end.

15. The air intake module according to claim 14, including at least one of the following:

- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end;

- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and, wherein said service line provides coupling between an operational interface and at least said propulsion system;
- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and, wherein said service line comprises a fuel line for supplying liquid fuel to the propulsion system;
- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and, wherein said service line includes electrical lines for providing electrical power and/or control lines for providing electrical signals and/or electronic signals to the aft module end from the from module end;
- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and, wherein said module forward end comprises a receptacle, having an aft-facing open end, the receptacle being configured for enabling a portion of the service line to be accommodated therein concurrent with the air intake module being in the module stowed configuration;
- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and, wherein said module forward end comprises a receptacle, having an aft-facing open end, the receptacle being configured for enabling a portion of the service line to be accommodated therein concurrent with the air intake module being in the module stowed configuration, and, wherein said receptacle is configured for allowing the service line to be extracted from the receptacle, as an aft end of the service line is pulled with the module aft end concurrent with the air intake module being transitioned from the module stowed configuration to the module deployed configuration;
- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and,;
- said air intake module comprising a service line, said service line coupling the module forward end with the module aft end, and, wherein in the module deployed configuration, the service line passes from operational interface through the aft facing cone structure and to the propulsion system.

16. The air intake module according to any one of claims 1 to 15, including one of the following:

- said air intake module comprising a plurality of vanes;
- said air intake module comprising a plurality of vanes, and, wherein the vanes are pivotably mounted with respect to the aft module end.

17. A projectile, comprising a projectile forward end, longitudinally coupled to the air intake module as defined in any one of claims 1 to 16, and including the propulsion system as defined in any one of claims 14 to 16.

18. The projectile according to claim 17, including at least one of the following:

- wherein the propulsion system comprises at least one turbojet engine;
- wherein the projectile has a stowed configuration corresponding to the module stowed confirmation, and a deployed configuration corresponding to the module deployed configuration.

19. A method for deploying an air intake module, comprising:

providing the air intake module, the air intake module being as defined in any one of claims 1 to 16;

longitudinally displacing the module aft end with respect to the module forward end, between the first longitudinal spacing and the second longitudinal spacing.

20. A method for deploying a projectile, comprising:

providing the projectile, the projectile being as defined in any one of claims 17 to 18;

longitudinally displacing the module aft end with respect to the module forward end, between the first longitudinal spacing and the second longitudinal spacing, to thereby deploy the projectile from the stowed configuration to the deployed configuration.