

HEMS MEDICAL CREW AVIATION FAMILIARISATION COURSE

Safety and professionalism are among the key priorities for Leonardo Helicopters Training Academies, supporting our mission to provide outstanding flight and maintenance training to all our customers.

An example of our commitment to world-class training and simulation experiences for both aircrew and ground crew is the delivery of the first HEMS Medical Crew Aviation Familiarisation course which took place recently at our Training Academy in Sesto Calende.

We were delighted to welcome a delegation from the Università degli Studi dell'Aquila along with experienced medical crews from different Italian regions, giving us the opportunity to introduce students to this new course.

The aim of the course, designed according to FAA and EASA standards, is to provide students with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed to perform safe and efficient HEMS operations in the HEMS Medical Crew role.

The course was split into classroom and practical activities on the HEros Bay (Helicopter Rescue Operations Simulators) in Sesto Calende developed specifically for the HEMS environment.

Facilities include a mock-up fitted with a real Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) kit, a dedicated

climbing wall and the latest state-of-the-art training device MITHOS (Modular Interactive Trainer for Helicopter OperatorS). Our highly skilled instructor team also provides new HEMS training courses for medical crew including doctors, nurses and paramedics as well as hoist and rescue personnel.

The course enabled us to bring together academic and medical experts alongside Leonardo's experienced instructors and advanced training devices in a single location to offer practical training tailored to the specific needs of the HEMS community.

Watch the video...



2022 AWFAMILY MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENT TEAM EVENT

At the end of June, we had the pleasure of hosting our regular summer edition of the Maintenance Improvement Team (MIT) event at our Vergiate site to discuss maintainability and reliability improvements for our products together with our growing community of customers and operators worldwide. The event also provided a value opportunity to share feedback and experiences.

For first time we covered all the AW Family products – the AW169, AW139 and AW189 – over four days. The aim was to take an in-depth look at key topics related to product improvements and updates, maintenance efficiency, data reliability and availability as well as digital solutions for the AW169, AW139 and AW189 product lines.

During the MIT sessions, we also discussed the latest In-Service Events and the Reliability Data Sharing Group on all AW Family products. The round-table element of the event allowed us to draw out valuable real-world insights from customers and operators to create a dedicated list of actions covering product maintainability and reliability.



The MIT initiative is a well-established way for us to engage with the customer community and this year's event proved to be a great success among customers, operators and partners who joined us and enjoyed an excellent opportunity for networking, fostering existing relationships, and sharing information and knowledge.

A big thank you to everyone who took part for the continuous support and collaboration that guarantees the success of this initiative.

LEONARDO MALAYSIA BLADE SHOP ACHIEVES JCAB CERTIFICATION

Leonardo Malaysia has strengthened its support to customers in the Asia-Pacific region by achieving Japanese (JCAB) certification for the state-of-the-art Blade Repair Centre which is located in the Subang Airport area. The certification covers the entire range of commercial and dual-use helicopters and means that Japanese customers and operators will benefit from reduced turnaround times for blade repairs, boosting the serviceability of their fleets.

The latest approval comes just two and half years after the facility secured EASA certification in December 2019 and it underlines our commitment to customer satisfaction and to provide 360° support across the region.

Thanks to MRO approvals with the authorities of Malaysia, Europe (EASA), Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Japan, the Leonardo Malaysia team can meet the most diverse customer requirements, including the provision of training services and the timely supply of spare parts.

For more information on our services, please refer to the dedicated points of contact within the Customer Support & Services Directory on the Leonardo Portal.



NEW 10-YEAR AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT BRISTOW OFFSHORE FLEET



A new 10-year global service programme will strengthen our support for Bristow Group's offshore fleet of AW139 and AW189 helicopters. Signed during the Farnborough International Airshow in July, the contract extends to 2032 and will see Leonardo take responsibility for airframe support with key suppliers covering the respective components.

The agreement spans Bristow's worldwide offshore fleet, which comprises 57 AW139s and 7 AW189s operating in regions including North and Central America, the Caribbean, the United Kingdom, Brazil, and Nigeria. We have been working with Bristow since the company's merger with ERA in 2020 to finalise the agreement. It enables existing contracts to support both helicopter types to be streamlined and aligned.

The 10-year agreement increases the level of support for the overall fleet, bringing many AW139s onto full service coverage. It also delivers more efficient logistics and other savings to the operator, reinforcing the value of our logistics services that increase performance across geographies.

By operating a mixed fleet of AW139s and AW189s, Bristow is able to benefit from the advantages offered by the AW Family concept that includes common components and maintenance tooling. Meanwhile, we are continuing to invest in our growing global maintenance network with the commitment to develop an expanded range of digital services and to focus on greater customer proximity.



UK AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY ADDS SECOND AW169



Essex & Herts Air Ambulance

The Essex and Herts Air Ambulance Trust (EHAAT) in the UK will soon be able to call on a second AW169 helicopter to support its lifesaving work following an agreement signed at the Farnborough International Airshow (FIA) in July.

The second AW169 is expected to be delivered in the final quarter of 2023, adding a new dimension to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) missions carried out by EHAAT, which is a registered charity. The agreement between Specialist Aviation Services (SAS) and EHAAT will see the aircraft equipped with a bespoke medical interior alongside a range of other modifications provided by SAS.

The addition of a second AW169 to the charity's fleet will enhance the charity's strategic objective to deliver advanced lifesaving care to the communities of Essex and Hertfordshire. The Trust signed for its first AW169 intermediate twin in 2016 and the helicopter took to the skies in the summer of 2017.

Commenting on the plans to welcome a second AW169 into the EHAAT fleet, the charity's Aviation and Operations Director Paul Curtis said: "Having seen the financial and operational benefits of buying our first AW169 in 2017, the

Trustees have made the decision to add a second AW169 to the fleet to replace our existing leased MD902, which is now over 12 years old... the new state-of-the-art AW169 will be able to fly further, faster and carry additional equipment than the existing MD902. In addition, it offers the maximum internal cabin space for crew and patients so that, even whilst flying, the Pre-Hospital Care Doctors and Critical Care Paramedics will have full access to the patient if necessary – continuing to improve the lifesaving service for the people of Essex, Hertfordshire and surrounding areas. We look forward to bringing the new helicopter into service by spring 2024."

The AW169 has boosted our presence in the UK EMS market with 11 units already in operation. The AW169 for EMS operations can be reconfigured rapidly and is uniquely designed around patient needs so that air medical professionals can be there when it counts.

The helicopter also features enhanced safety on the ground thanks to the high clearance of the main and tail rotors, as well as Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) mode that enables the environmental control system, radios and medical devices to continue to operate when the rotors are stopped.

SLOANE PARTNERSHIP STRONGER THAN EVER



Our long-term partnership with Sloane Helicopters continues to go from strength-to-strength. During the Farnborough International Airshow (FIA) we announced that the Distributor Agreement with Sloane has been extended to cover the period 2022-2024, underlining our continued success and expansion in the UK and Republic of Ireland commercial helicopter market.

The agreement covers the AW109 GrandNew, AW109 Trekker and AW169 types and foresees the purchase of a minimum of seven new helicopters between now and 2024. The first of these aircraft was confirmed at FIA with the signing for an AW109 GrandNew.

The new contract brings the total number of helicopters ordered by Sloane in 2022 to seven, all of which are due for delivery before the end of 2023. This order also reinforces the strong demand in the region for the class-leading light twin.

David George, Chairman of Sloane Helicopters, commented: "We are delighted to continue and further develop our close partnership with Leonardo. The new Agusta branding focuses on an enhanced VIP customer experience. Combined with the helicopters' leading performance and safety characteristics, along with excellent support services, the Agusta helicopters are the clear leader in the VIP/corporate sector."

The relationship with Sloane Helicopters dates to 1995 when Sloane became the sole distributor of Leonardo VIP/corporate helicopters in the UK and Ireland. To date, more than 100 Leonardo commercial helicopters have been delivered to operators and private users in the region. Sloane is also a Leonardo Authorised Service Centre and a Type Rating Training Centre for Leonardo helicopters in the UK.



AIN SURVEY: WE'RE FIRST AGAIN FOR PRODUCT SUPPORT



The views of our customers are always the clearest measure of how we're performing, so it's an honour to be ranked first for product support for the second year running in a survey carried out by industry title Aviation International News (AIN).

Founded in 1972, Aviation International News is a monthly trade publication focused on the business aviation market, featuring news, special reports and survey results. AINonline ranks as one of the leading websites for all types of aviation news worldwide.

Each year AIN surveys its extensive reader base, asking for feedback about Fixed-Base Operators (FBOs) and product support. The aim is to encourage continuous improvement in aircraft product support across the industry. In 2022, we achieved a great result in the survey, improving our scores and topping the table across all 10 categories assessed.

Our overall score of 8.6 – up from 8.3 in 2021 – saw us outrank competitor Airbus (Bell and Sikorsky did not receive enough responses to be rated in this year's survey results). Furthermore, we improved our scores across the board, year-on-year: Factory Owned Service Centres (8.8), Authorised Service Centres (8.8), Cost Per Hour Programmes (8.1), Parts Availability (8.4), Cost of Parts (7.8), AOG Response (8.9), Warranty Fulfillment (9.1), Technical Manuals (8.9), Technical Reps (9.0) and Overall Aircraft Reliability (8.6).

The result reflects our continued investment in all aspects of product support. Most recently, we opened a 2,000m² (21,528ft²) customer support and service centre at Paris Le Bourget Airport, inaugurated our new Leonardo Helicopters Training Academy in the US in Philadelphia, as well as an FAA-approved maintenance facility outside Pensacola, Florida.

We're also continuing to invest in spare parts distribution, with a worldwide distribution availability valued at \$1 billion, underlining our commitment to customer proximity. We maintained fixed prices from 2020 until April 2022, with only gradual increases when our customers were back to operating at more sustained business levels and flight activity.

[Click here to read the survey published in the magazine](#)

AW149 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES ROCKET FIRING TRIALS

The AW149 multi-role helicopter has completed successful guided and unguided rocket firing trials to prove the military capability of the aircraft. The trials, which took place at a test range in an undisclosed European country, were conducted in the final quarter of 2021 and involved both free-flight unguided rockets and laser-guided rocket salvos. The firing trial activity was a coordinated approach involving Italian and UK test pilots from their respective Aviation Operation teams.

Over several weeks, the AW149 clocked up around 70 hours of firing trials which were carried out in a range of conditions and at stand-off distances of between 3.5km and 4km – in line with the limitations of the firing range.

During the flights, data was gathered from engine, airframe and weapon pylon instrumentation as well as from external and aircraft-mounted cameras. The evidence gathered was used to expand the weapon flight envelope.

Lee Evans, Experimental Test Pilot at Leonardo Helicopters UK, piloted and conducted some of the firings. He said: “It was great to test the integrated mission and weapon systems that give the AW149 a true multi-role battlefield capability. The AW149’s tactical radar and EOD [Electro-Optical Director] enables rapid and efficient acquisition and subsequent prosecution of the target.”

The AW149 is an advanced platform equipped with latest-generation system technologies, equipment and weapons to deliver multi-role mission effect on the modern battlefield. Combining unparalleled safety and performance with high levels of survivability and crashworthiness, the helicopter gives military customers a highly effective, survivable and cost-effective capability.



AW139 TO SUPPORT SONAIR IN ANGOLAN OFFSHORE MARKET

We are continuing to expand our presence in the African offshore market with an order from SonAir Airline Services for two AW139s. The helicopters will strengthen energy industry support operations in Angola and will be used for transport operations in the national oil and gas industry. Deliveries are expected in the first quarter of 2023.

SonAir is owned by Angola's national petroleum company Sonangol. The AW139 intermediate twins on order will replace ageing helicopters in the company's fleet and the contract includes a comprehensive customer support and training package as well as options for an additional two aircraft.

The energy market in Angola and in other parts of Africa is showing significant potential for our latest generation helicopter models. Over the past eight years, Leonardo has been the only manufacturer to increase its presence in the African offshore sector, almost doubling the number of aircraft.

With more than 60% of the existing offshore fleet made up of older design types, Leonardo's state-of-the-art helicopters are well placed to support the fleet replacement and modernisation plans of operators in the region.



COHC ORDERS FOUR AW139s FOR OFFSHORE OPERATIONS

China's CITC Offshore Helicopter Company (COHC) has signed a contract for four AW139 helicopters that will be deployed to support offshore oil and gas production operations. The deliveries, which are scheduled for 2022 and 2023, will increase COHC's fleet of Leonardo helicopters to 10 – eight AW139s, one AW169 and one AW109 Power.

COHC was founded in 1983 and became the first professional helicopter operator in China. It remains the only publicly traded general aviation company in the country. COHC operates a fleet of more than 80 aircraft for missions including offshore transport, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and utility operations. The company is also the exclusive helicopter operator for China's polar exploratory missions.

More than 40 AW139s have already been delivered to Chinese operators across markets segments including Oil and Gas Production (OGP), EMS, VIP and law enforcement.

The agreement is the latest in a series of contracts that includes an order for two AW189s by Beijing Police in November 2021, and six AW189s ordered by the Rescue and Salvage Bureau of the Ministry of Transport in March 2022.



XIANGJIANG GA CONFIRMS AW139 AND AW109 TREKKER ORDER

The AW139 and AW109 Trekker will be making an important contribution to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and aerial firefighting missions in China, following a contract signed with China's Xiangjiang General Aviation Development Company (Xiangjiang GA).

Xiangjiang GA has ordered one of each aircraft type—the AW139 is due for delivery in the first quarter of 2023 while the AW109 Trekker will follow towards the end of next year. The helicopters will be deployed by various municipal branches in Hunan province to perform EMS, firefighting and public security duties. The development is part of a public-sponsored approach to establish a nationwide HEMS and firefighting network across China.

Hunan province is home to 66 million people and has a GDP of \$700 billion. It is also the first province in China to reform the way it manages low-altitude airspace and will pioneer a public helicopter EMS service which will be led by Xiangjiang GA. The acquisition of the AW139 and AW109 Trekker enables the organisation to provide a wide range of services with future fleet and growth capabilities in mind.

Through this contract, we are pleased to further strengthen our position in the Asia-Pacific region with deliveries of more than 40 AW139s and 13 AW109 Trekker helicopters to Chinese operators. In total, more than 200 Leonardo civil helicopters have been sold in China to date. This confirms our leading position in China across applications including Oil & Gas Producers (OGP), EMS, VIP and law enforcement.

With over 1,250 units ordered by more than 290 operators worldwide, the AW139 remains the best-selling type in the intermediate twin-engine category. Meanwhile, the latest product enhancement on the AW109 Trekker is the integration of a four-axis autopilot into the helicopter's avionics system. The technology will be applied on the Xiangjiang AW109 Trekker to further improve aircraft safety and manoeuvrability.



OUR FACILITY IN YEOVIL GETS READY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF AW149s

Our Yeovil site in the UK is gearing up to manufacture the AW149 with the start of work to create a new production line for the latest-generation battlefield helicopter.

This multi-million pound investment in onshore facilities makes our bid for the UK's New Medium Helicopter (NMH) requirement even more competitive because the new production line will be ready to deliver the AW149 into service by 2025 – meeting the UK Ministry of Defence's stated goal. Alongside the production line, we also have the infrastructure and skills readily available to deliver this ambitious timescale if selected by the MOD.

Gian Piero Cutillo, Managing Director of Leonardo Helicopters, said: "We have already trained engineers in Yeovil to specialise in AW149 production. We have now also made the necessary infrastructure investment to be ready for the localised build of AW149s, leveraging commonalities with the AW189 that we have previously produced on-site in Yeovil.

"If the AW149 is chosen by the UK MOD, our immediately-available capability would ensure that our production ramp-up, risk reduction, cost savings and aircraft lead-time are second-to-none."

Adam Clarke, Managing Director of Leonardo Helicopters UK, added: "From the outset of this competition, Leonardo has committed to the establishment of an AW149 production line at our Yeovil site. This investment into the line is our company's 'declaration of readiness' to support the UK MoD in its requirement to have the NMH in-service in 2025. Furthermore, this investment further de-risks our programme and highlights our willingness to support the UK customer now, should Leonardo be successful with its bid."

At the moment, our Yeovil facility is already equipped to support the in-service AW149s, manufacturing the dynamics and transmission components that are on-board the aircraft. Between 2014 and 2018, 10 AW189s were built in Yeovil to support the UK Search and Rescue service operated by Bristow Helicopters.

The two models have the same external footprint and share common engines, drivetrain, blades, Digital Automatic Flight Control Systems, and Flight Management System. This means that our team in Yeovil can already leverage on its existing engineering and manufacturing skills and knowledge base for the manufacture of the AW149.

We have also shared skills within the company, as teams in Italy have welcomed their colleagues from Yeovil to share the engineering skills and techniques used to build the latest-generation AW149 battlefield helicopter.



GREEN LIGHT FOR PROTEUS UNCREWED MILITARY VTOL DEMONSTRATOR IN UK



We are proud to remain at the forefront of the UK's advanced research into uncrewed military Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) technology. The UK Ministry of Defence has recently given Leonardo the green light to lead a four-year programme that will see a new uncrewed flying demonstrator dubbed 'Proteus' take to the skies for the first time in 2025.

The £60 million (€71m) programme will position our site in Yeovil as the future hub for the UK's uncrewed military VTOL expertise as well as being the 'Home of British Helicopters'.

The contract has been awarded by Defence Equipment & Support's Future Capability Group (FCG) and is funded through Defence Innovation. Under the plans, we will deliver a wide-ranging Rotary Wing Uncrewed Air System (RWUAS) Technology Demonstration Programme (TDP). The Proteus demonstrator is a key element of the Royal Navy's Future Maritime Aviation Force vision for anti-submarine warfare support.

As a close partner of the UK MOD we have already made substantial investments in uncrewed military capabilities onshore. This includes conducting several advanced research projects under RWUAS Phases 1 and 2. This latest contract – for Phase 3 – will now sustain and grow this onshore capability by readying a brand new uncrewed prototype for its maiden flight. Internationally, Leonardo is already at the heart of multiple uncrewed research and innovation programmes. We are applying our expertise in diverse fields including advanced air mobility, uncrewed combat air, counter-UAS technologies, and uncrewed traffic management. We've also participated in major European exercises such as Unmanned Warrior, Italian Blade, and OCEAN 2020.

Adam Clarke, Managing Director of Leonardo Helicopters (UK), said: "Uncrewed VTOL aircraft will transform military capability whilst also having applications in other market sectors, both in the UK and around the world. This contract represents a major step towards our future in next-generation uncrewed military technology and the sustainment of unique engineering skills onshore."



USAF RECEIVES FIRST FOUR MH-139A GREY WOLF HELICOPTERS

The US Air Force has taken delivery of the first four MH-139A Grey Wolf test helicopters which will replace the USAF's fleet of ageing UH-1N Hueys. The MH-139A is based on the proven multi-mission AW139 and will be deployed for a wide range of roles including protection of intercontinental ballistic missiles, as well as providing transport for US Government officials and security forces.

We are partnered with Boeing on the programme, with helicopters being produced at our Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certified Part 21 facility in Philadelphia. Boeing is responsible for military equipment procurement and installation as well as post-delivery support of the aircraft. Boeing was awarded a \$2.8 billion contract in September 2018 for up to 80 helicopters, training systems and associated support equipment.

The delivery milestone follows the FAA's issuing of the last supplemental type certificate needed to complete US Department of Defense Form 250, marking the formal start of aircraft acceptance.

Commenting on the initial deliveries, Clyde Woltman, CEO of Leonardo Helicopters US, said: "This aircraft is well-positioned to become an important asset in the defence and security of the United States. I especially want to thank the combined programme teams at Leonardo and Boeing whose tireless work and ingenuity made this possible."

Mark Cherry, Vice President and General Manager of Vertical Lift, added: "The Grey Wolf is a modern, versatile aircraft offering greater range, speed and endurance than the UH-1N Huey it replaces. I am proud of our team, who along with our partner Leonardo, helped us to achieve this milestone – a tremendous first step in a long line of Grey Wolf deliveries."



AW101 ROARS INTO ACTION IN JURASSIC WORLD DOMINION

It must surely be the most dramatic mission ever undertaken by the AW101! The helicopter roared into action for the blockbuster film Jurassic World Dominion, showing off its rescue credentials in the box office hit which marks the conclusion of the epic Jurassic era.

The AW101 is well-versed in tackling the most demanding environmental conditions from hot-and-high to Arctic cold, but transporting dinosaurs is an application that even its most imaginative designers at Leonardo never envisaged.

The helicopter that features in the movie is in All-Weather Search and Rescue (AWSAR) configuration and is more used to the Northern Lights of Norway than the bright lights of Hollywood. In real life, the technologically advanced helicopter belongs to the Royal Norwegian Air Force's 330 Squadron, which operates the platform.

The helicopter includes numerous features that enhance SAR mission safety, including all-weather ice protection, comprehensive automatic flight controls, integrated multi-sensor and cockpit display systems.

The AW101 is also perfectly equipped to deal with any threats from 'predators' and to keep a watchful eye out for survivors thanks to a fully integrated glass cockpit, four-axis digital avionics system and a Health and Usage Monitoring System (HUMS) among other capabilities.

The AW101's big screen appearance is not the only dinosaur-themed connection to the company either. Built in Yeovil, not too far from the famed Jurassic Coast, the AW101 is light years away in technological terms from the Pterodactyl I monoplane, also built at our UK facility, which took to the skies for the first time in 1925. The aircraft later evolved into the two-seat Pterodactyl V fighter prototype in the mid-1930s.



AW101 SAR QUEEN SAVING LIVES IN NORWAY

The AW101 SAR Queen is continuing to provide lifesaving search and rescue capability across Norway and with the opening of Banak SAR base earlier this year, the helicopter now has its first permanent operating location inside the Arctic Circle.

The Royal Norwegian Air Force (RNoAF) operates the AW101 in All-Weather Search and Rescue (AWSAR) configuration and there are now three live operating bases – the other two being Sola and Ørland.

The fleet has quickly ramped up operations since the first six helicopters delivered to Norway became operational in September 2020. They are flown by the RNoAF RHT (Helicopter Search and Rescue Services) and in their first month of operation, the SAR Queen aircraft undertook multiple missions in challenging weather conditions and inhospitable environments.

Many of the missions were SAR operations, including night-time mountain rescue and emergency transportation.

Across its Sea King and AW101 platforms, the RNoAF RHT has amassed over 200,000 flying hours.

In addition to the aircraft themselves, we are also supporting the RNoAF with maintenance, including 24/7 support as well as technical representatives. Thor Gunnar Johansen, Key Account Manager for Leonardo Helicopters, commented: “Leonardo is integrated into the Air Force’s operations and that’s a key element in what we call the turnkey solution. “Leonardo provides extensive support through our fully integrated teams at the Sola base. We also support at the operating bases, through our maintainers, Material Officers and Technical Officers.”

Air Force pilots flying the AW101 have generally gone through type conversion to enable them to fly the SAR Queen. This training has been conducted in Stavanger, Norway at Leonardo’s Norwegian Training Centre (NTC), which is close to the Sola operating base.

The NTC houses a Full Flight Simulator (FFS) Level D, which is for pilot training and also supports flight engineer training. The facility also houses the Systems Operator Console Simulator (SOCS). The FFS and the SOCS can be linked to provide comprehensive and holistic training to the full crew.



UPDATES FROM LABACE

Our VIP/corporate helicopter fleet in Brazil is continuing to flourish following several orders announced at LABACE, the Latin America Business Aviation Conference and Exhibition, which took place in Sao Paulo from 9-11 August.

During the event we confirmed orders for three aircraft – two AW169 light intermediate twin helicopters and one AW109 Trekker light twin. A private operator in Brazil will take delivery of one AW169 and one AW109 Trekker in the final quarter of 2023. Meanwhile, the second AW169 is expected to be delivered in the third quarter of next year.

All the aircraft will feature highly customised configurations and interiors and will benefit from advanced and comprehensive support solutions that will be delivered by the new Service and Logistics Centre in Itapevi.

The latest orders for the AW169 take the number of the type purchased by VIP operators in Brazil to 14.



A WARM WELCOME AT VIP PILOT DAY IN BRAZIL

We were delighted to welcome 130 members of the pilot community in Brazil to our VIP Pilot Day which took place in the municipality of Itapevi in August.

Itapevi is home to our brand new Helicopter Service and Logistics Centre that opened its doors in 2021. Located 30 km from São Paulo and covering an area of 80,000m², it has quickly enabled us to expand our maintenance capabilities in Brazil by 50%.

The event provided a valuable opportunity to connect with professional pilots, share the latest information on product developments and to discuss the thinking behind the new Agusta brand – focused exclusively on the corporate/VIP segment of the market.



Speaking at the event, Vittorio Della Bella, SVP Customer Support, Services & Training, confirmed our commitment to supporting our growing customer base in Brazil: “With this new facility, we’re also starting a process which will bring us to include all new completion capabilities, well beyond what we’ve been doing so far in Brazil supporting our customers. “Since its operational readiness in 2021, more than 30% of the local fleet has been maintained in our P145 facility with a significant increase of AW169 customers coming to us to benefit from our services. In addition, considering the important role of the Brazilian market for our products, we are happy to share with you that an instructor pilot dedicated specifically to the AW109SP will be available in Itapevi providing best-in-class training to our customers.”

He also highlighted our unwavering commitment to safety, which is epitomised by a new initiative called ‘Safety Takes Flight’ – a dedicated series of safety webinars aimed at pilots, operators and owners. The sessions cover a wide range of safety topics including best practice to prevent and manage unexpected flight or operational conditions, through to situational awareness and decision-making.

Vittorio also underlined the importance of the launch of the new Agusta brand and what it will bring to operators in the corporate/VIP market. He said: “Agusta embodies and represents our values and way forward in rotorcraft executive transport, with a peculiar focus on quality, excellence, Italian craftsmanship and customisation. All focused specifically on each customer’s own flight experience, to define it in a specific and inimitable way.”

AASS: STRENGTHENING TIES WITH TÜRKİYE



We have a proud history of collaboration with Türkiye across numerous helicopter programmes dating back to the 1970s. So, we were delighted to have the opportunity to strengthen these ties by participating in the Air & Avionic Systems Seminar (AASS) 2022, which took place in the Turkish capital Ankara from June 2-3.

The event is one of the leading conferences in Türkiye dedicated to the aerospace sector and brings together government agencies, armed forces, parapublic agencies, universities, and industry to discuss the latest developments and opportunities.

Among the major topics debated over the two days were the future of the Turkish defence industry and the importance of indigenous programmes, international co-operation opportunities, and major ongoing and upcoming Turkish military programmes. The event also raised the increasing need for new solutions and technologies in areas such as command and control, cyber security, optics, and uncrewed aircraft systems.

AASS provided an important opportunity for us to emphasise Leonardo's commitment to partnership in Türkiye and the contribution that our crewed and uncrewed platforms can play in supporting the country's requirements across the defence and parapublic sectors. In support of this, we presented numerous solutions including the AW119T, the AW189 in Search and Rescue (SAR) configuration, the AW101, and the AWHEREO uncrewed aircraft system.

The conference was also an ideal forum to network and to welcome several delegations, which included The Turkish Navy, Turkish Land Forces, Turkish Air Force, Turkish Coast Guard, and Aselsan, as well as the country's defence procurement agency SSB.



PAVCON 2022: SUPPORTING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

The law enforcement community has an increasing need for helicopters that provide rapid response capabilities to combat criminal activity, terrorism, riots and public emergencies. This was one of the themes to emerge at Police Aviation Conference (PAvCon) 2022 which was held from June 7-8 in Wiener Neustadt, Austria.

We had a strong presence at the event, which is considered to be one of the most important conferences in Europe for the law enforcement sector. Hosted by Airborne Technologies more than 160 delegates from over 60 organisations attended over the two days, which featured conference sessions and an expo area.

The conference provided an opportunity for airborne police unit officers of all ranks to meet delegations from other nations and to be briefed on the latest technologies and equipment offered by industry.

Leonardo's presence included a hands-on demonstration of the Mission Management System (MMS) Console Simulator, which was of particular interest to numerous European police air support units. We also spoke about how we are tailoring solutions to specific customer requirements, using the AW169 as a case study.



The event confirmed that demand for law enforcement helicopters in Europe continues to recover, supported by an increased need for multi-mission helicopters. Discussions also centred on greater demand for cutting-edge avionics and mission kits as well as the importance of training services dedicated to law enforcement requirements, for example fast roping and rescue hoist training. Looking to the future, the growing significance of uncrewed platforms operating alongside crewed helicopters was another area of focus.

We were delighted to take this opportunity to keep up to date with the requirements of the law enforcement community and to strengthen our relationships with existing and future customers as we continue to evolve our products and services in this demanding sector of the market.



APSCON 2022: KEEPING THE PUBLIC SAFE

Law enforcement agencies worldwide rely on helicopter assets for the most demanding public safety missions. We were therefore delighted to take part in APSCON 2022 – the annual event organised by the US non-profit organisation the Airborne Public Safety Association (APSA) which draws together industry and aviation units from across the United States to discuss emerging trends and new technologies in the sector.

Held this year in Reno, Nevada from July 25-30, APSCON 2022 welcomed helicopter and uncrewed air vehicle OEMs, equipment manufacturers, training and maintenance service providers as well as 130 agencies representing 32 US states.

Our presence at the event focused on the Leonardo Helicopters product range designed to meet the requirements of challenging Security Services missions, including the AW09, AW119, AW109T, AW169 and AW139. Delegates were also able to experience our Mission Management System (MMS) Console Simulator which demonstrates the capability already in service on an AW169 operated by the Norwegian Police.

The US law enforcement market has more than 900 helicopters in operation, more than 85% of which are single-engine types. Many of these are also older legacy helicopters that will need to be replaced in the coming years. We remain committed to supporting existing and future customers in the US as they look to upgrade or replace their fleets and APSCON 2022 provided a valuable opportunity to meet operators from right across the US and to understand more about their needs.



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