

THC AGREEMENT STRENGTHENS AW139 PRESENCE IN SAUDI ARABIA

We are strengthening our collaboration with THC, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's first and only commercial helicopter company, through an agreement that will see a major expansion of the AW139 fleet in the Kingdom.

THC (The Helicopter Company) will acquire 16 AW139s, which will be introduced for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and corporate transport operations, adding to the company's existing fleet of seven AW139s. The agreement will see deliveries begin in 2022 and conclude within three years, while the contract also includes options for a further six units.

THC has been operating since mid-2019 and was established by the Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF) as part of a strategy to bolster new sectors that meet the growing demand for commercial helicopters in the country. The agreement takes the number of AW139s sold to operators in the Middle East to more than 170.

Captain Arnaud Martinez, CEO of THC, said: "We are really excited to expand significantly our Leonardo fleet with this new order. The AW139 is certainly one of the most reliable platforms in the industry and the 'best-in-class' transportation in this category. We are also delighted to re-emphasise our partnership with Leonardo—a historic partner of THC—to develop new capabilities and services across the full rotary ecosystem in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia."



#1 IN 2022 PRO PILOT SURVEY ONCE AGAIN – THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS!

We are proud to maintain first place in the 2022 Professional Pilot Helicopter Product Survey, for the fourth consecutive year. And we would like to say a huge thank you to all our customers for their valuable feedback and continued support!

As the magazine said: “Leonardo wins 1st spot in the turbine helicopter category for the 4th year in a row in the Pro Pilot Helicopter Manufacturers Product Support Survey, receiving an overall score of 8.49 and placing 1st in all categories of the survey.”

We are grateful to all our customers and operators worldwide for this significant result, which is a clear sign of the invaluable trust they place in us, recognising our on-going efforts to enhance services, products and value-added solutions.

Proximity and customer satisfaction are the pillars of our mission to provide customers with first-class support, innovative advanced services, training and digital solutions. To achieve these goals, we are constantly investing in our global presence as well as introducing innovative solutions and new technology to better meet customers’ needs.

Once again, thank you to all our customers for this recognition, which is a great incentive to continually improve our services and the overall customer experience.

CASA PART 145 MAINTENANCE APPROVAL IN AUSTRALIA

In line with our commitment to get ever closer to customers, to expand our capability and to ensure service excellence, we are proud to announce that the Essendon Fields Service Centre located in Melbourne has received CASA Part 145 approval/certification by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). The CASA Part 145 Maintenance approval is an enhanced regulatory standard based on a Safety Management System (SMS) aimed at achieving the highest level of aviation safety performance.

Today Leonardo Australia is supporting a growing fleet of 100+ commercial helicopters within the Oceania region. The CASA P145 approval represents an important achievement, which allows us to provide customers and operators improved and localised services, strengthening our network to enable direct access to our support services, as well as offering a deeper level of maintenance and safety.



MOUNTAIN RESCUE ON JAPAN'S HIGHEST PEAK

An A109E was called into action to perform a winter-time rescue near the summit of Japan's highest peak, Mount Fuji. The rescue took place in January when the Shizuoka Prefectural Police Air Corps successfully conducted a mission to come to the aid of a casualty who was located at an altitude of 3,620m (11,880ft).

According to the captain who flew the helicopter on this mission, the A109E typically operates in a patrol configuration. However, on this day, with the primary rescue helicopter undergoing maintenance, the A109E was on standby in rescue configuration and was deployed with two pilots, one hoist operator and one rescuer onboard.

The Shizuoka Prefectural Police Air Corps was founded in 1978 with the introduction of its first light single helicopter. In February 2007, it adopted the next generation of helicopter by moving the operation to the A109E (JA13PC).

Based at the Japan Air Self-Defense Force Shizuhama Air Base located in Yaizu (Shizuoka Prefecture), its operating territory covers one of the most important highways and railways in Japan, which connects the east and west of Honshu Island, as well as the area around Mount Fuji.



CUSTOMER ADVISORY BOARD MEETS AT HELI-EXPO

After two years of pandemic-related disruption, it was great to finally have the opportunity to meet and share ideas in person at Heli-Expo 2022 in Dallas where our Customer Advisory Board (CAB) helped us to reconnect with customers, operators and partners.

The CAB provided a welcome opportunity to discuss emerging trends such as product and training innovation, technology and digitalisation. The event was divided into two elements – the morning session focused on latest news about the AW109/AW119 and AW169 products, while the afternoon session was dedicated to the AW139 and AW189.

Among the main topics discussed across both sessions were the customer service experience, including a spotlight on support services, the training and simulation learning system, and engineering support services.

As part of our commitment to provide best-in-class engineering support to the worldwide fleet, we also shared more details of a new engineering support scheme called the Engineering Services Foundation. This programme replaces the standard support scheme and includes a list of additional basic services as well as a wider catalogue of services to further boost the technical support available for customers' fleets.

The new programme, together with the digital transformation process we are pursuing, will make a huge

contribution to the overall customer experience and it underlines the crucial role that digitalisation will play for all of us.

We also highlighted our continuous investment in providing customers with state-of-the-art and innovative training devices that exceed the most demanding training requirements. This includes the introduction of two new training products that deliver the highest fidelity simulation experience.

The Modular Interactive Trainer for Helicopter Operators (MITHOS) uses augmented reality technology and is dedicated to rear crew and cabin operators, while the Enhanced Training Device ETD e-Motion, combines the advantages of Full Flight Simulator capability with the cost-effectiveness of Flight Training Devices. You can read more about each of these products in the dedicated articles in this issue.

Meanwhile, we are proud to announce the 8th Leonardo Helicopters HUMS Conference, which will be held in September 2022, where we will share with our community important improvements we have developed in recent years to constantly improve the level of the diagnostics available to customers. Stay tuned for more details.

Feedback and presentations from the CAB event have been collected and shared with the CAB community through a dedicated website and the Leonardo Customer Portal.



HELI-EXPO CONFIRMS CIVIL MARKET RECOVERY



As the rotary wing industry gathered for Heli-Expo 2022 in Dallas, we enjoyed a hugely successful few days which resulted in a string of orders for a total of 23 helicopters as well as confirmation of aircraft deliveries. The strong showing at Heli-Expo underlines Leonardo's solid position in the civil helicopter market.

The helicopters on order cover various types and they will be deployed for missions including VIP transport, energy services and rescue duties with operators in Europe, North America and Latin America. Deliveries are due to be completed in 2022 and 2023. The total sales include 15 AW139s, three AW169s, three AW109 GrandNew light twins, one AW119Kx and one AW189 super medium twin engine helicopter.

Meanwhile, new deliveries will support forthcoming shuttle services in Japan, charter and offshore transport operations in Italy, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) missions in Greece.

VIP/CORPORATE SECTOR

In the VIP/corporate market, our official distributor for UK & Ireland Sloane Helicopters ordered three AW109 GrandNew aircraft. This means that since the beginning of our collaboration with Sloane, 91 Leonardo commercial helicopters have been delivered to operators and private customers in the UK and Ireland.

Comexport ordered an AW169 to perform VIP missions in Brazil. The type has already proven highly successful in this key market for Leonardo, where seven units have been delivered to various operators out of a total of 190 aircraft of various types.

Turkish official distributor Kaan Air placed an order for one AW139. The contract expands the success of the AW139 in Turkey and adds to more than 30 commercial helicopters of various models sold in the country. Three different undisclosed users have also placed orders for a total of four AW139s in VIP configuration in the United States.

The AW139 has an established track record in performing shuttle and scheduled services and is now adding Japan to this

market. Toho Air Service, as part of its heli-commuter service linking together the six major Izu islands in the Tokyo area, will start using an AW139 at the end of 2022 marking the entrance of the type into the Japanese shuttle service market.

ENERGY AND RESCUE MARKETS

The AW169 is continuing its success in the wind farm sector, particularly in the North Sea. This presence has been strengthened by an order for two additional aircraft by HeliService international of Germany. These helicopters will be used to support Vestas turbine manufacturer in its offshore wind farm programme in Taiwan starting in Summer 2023.

In Mexico, passenger transport operator Pegaso, an existing AW139 operator, signed for an additional aircraft to carry out both offshore transport and search and rescue in the country. In Italy, Elilombarda has accepted two AW109 Trekker helicopters, which are ready to start operations in the Italian offshore energy industry sector, becoming the first offshore-configured aircraft of this type. Additionally, two AW109 Trekkers have recently entered service in Greece for EMS operations in support of the National Centre for Emergency Care's (EKAV) air ambulance operations.

Several orders and agreements were confirmed during an official ceremony held at our booth, as we traditionally do during Heli-Expo. The first ceremony marked the order from THC (see dedicated article on the cover of this issue) on the opening day of the exhibition, with our Top Management in attendance, which was immediately followed by the Rotortrade Distributor Agreement renewal (see separate article).

The ceremonies continued with events celebrating the orders of Pegaso and Asesa, which marked both the signature of an MRO agreement and the purchase of two helicopters. We also held events in celebration of purchase agreements with Heliservice, Comexport and Sloane Helicopters. Our CSST colleagues delivered plaques to Kinetica for the milestone of 10,000 flight hours with its AW119 fleet and to CHC for the company's excellent achievement of exceeding 250,000 flight hours with its AW139 fleet.

THE AGUSTA BRAND LANDS AT HELI-EXPO 2022

The new Agusta brand, dedicated to Leonardo's VIP customers, made its first official public appearance at Heli-Expo following its launch in October 2021 during Expo 2020 in Dubai.

Heli-Expo's position as the most prominent rotary wing exhibition in the world made it the ideal opportunity to introduce the new brand identity to the market. For the first time, the Agusta brand enjoyed an exclusive space of its own as part of the large Leonardo stand in Dallas.

Agusta represents a new vision for the market –one where the entire flight experience becomes the main focal point of the offer. This vision is brought to life through the design approach and the use of the finest materials characterised by 'Made in Italy' craftsmanship, allied with cutting-edge technology and the company's total commitment to supporting the customer.

The evocative payoff 'Your Sign Of Excellence' captures the essence of the new brand and the message behind it: That there are no limits to the imagination for a unique and 360° flight experience, which distinguishes the Agusta user in the world of vertical mobility.

Visitors to the stand appreciated the dedicated VIP brand area with its own visual identity, which provided an overview of tailor-made solutions for all customers, including the new operational services reserved specially for them and the different internal and external configurations available.

The next live event for the Agusta brand will be in Switzerland, from 23 to 25 May, when Palexpo in Geneva plays host to the EBACE 2022 trade exhibition.



AW609 VETD ON SHOW AT HELI-EXPO 2022

Virtual Enhanced Training Device

During Heli-Expo 2022 we were delighted to demonstrate the capabilities of the AW609 Virtual Enhanced Training Device (VETD). The AW609 VETD represents the first AW609 simulator designed and built with real cockpit parts providing high fidelity aircraft procedural training in a controlled, comfortable and highly realistic learning environment.

Customers using the AW609 VETD can enhance their training experience thanks to the true reproduction of all TiltRotor flight conditions, missions, and the standard operating environment as well as emergency procedures, instrument flight and shut down.

During the exhibition, customers had the chance to experience a flight via the AW609 VETD, testing some of its main capabilities such as cockpit and avionics familiarisation, pre- and post-flight operations and flight management system. This brought to life the benefits of learning by 'hands-on' training.

Completely designed, developed and manufactured in-house and leveraging on our genuine OEM data, the AW609 VETD plays an important role in optimising performance during aircrew training, filling the gap between ground training and flight training and reducing the training time needed in the Full Flight Simulator or on aircraft.

The AW609 VETD is based at our new Training Academy in the US, located at our Philadelphia campus. It reinforces our training capabilities and together with a suite of other training devices for mission-specific ground, flight and maintenance training for AW119, AW109 Series, AW139 and AW169 products, meets the growing demand for training services in the Americas.

INTRODUCING ETD E-MOTION: THE LATEST ADDITION TO OUR ENHANCED TRAINING DEVICES

Enhanced Training Devices (ETDs) play a vital role in delivering one of our primary missions – to provide outstanding flight and maintenance training so that our customers can achieve the highest levels of safety and efficiency. We are therefore proud to welcome a brand new addition to the ETD product line – the ETD e-Motion.

Taking advantage of the Full Flight Simulator capability offered by genuine Helicopter OEM development data and combining it with the cost-effectiveness typical of fixed-based Flight Training Devices (FTD), the ETD e-Motion embodies the best of both devices. It provides unmatched simulation fidelity, vibration and motion cues within realistic and ultra-defined visual scenery. The result is a device that pushes the training experience to the maximum level while keeping the level of investment cost-effective.



The unique Leonardo-developed simulator features go beyond compliance with FTD regulations and are instead more in line with Full Flight Simulator capabilities. The new ETD e-Motion incorporates a high-performance six-degree-of-freedom motion system with short-throw six-inch actuators to realistically reproduce motion and vibration cues.

The highest possible fidelity on flight dynamics, performance, avionics and cockpit replication is achieved by the use of simulation models and equipment already qualified at FFS Level D. An immersive direct projection system guarantees the realism of the external scenario through the latest laser technologies allied with the widest Pilot Field Of View (up to 212° x 88°).

The ETD e-Motion does not require large facility investments and a fraction of the typical maintenance and personnel are needed compared with legacy Full Flight Simulators. It therefore provides an efficient and cost-effective way to train pilots rapidly and to maintain the highest safety standards.

The new device forms part of our wider ETD product line, which is FAA/EASA certified, and represents a significant step ahead in the simulation market. Our ETDs offer incomparable training capabilities embodied in a highly cost-effective device that is constantly enriched with new features based on emerging and advanced technologies.

WATCH THE VIDEO →→→→→



PARTNERSHIP WITH ROTORTRADE EXTENDED

Since 2013 we have enjoyed a longstanding and fruitful relationship with Rotortrade in the global pre-owned civil helicopter market. During Heli-Expo 2022 in Dallas we announced plans to extend this partnership further by renewing the Distributor Agreement between the two companies.

Rotortrade has been the sole international distributor of pre-owned Leonardo helicopters for the past nine years and over that time the collaboration has led to the sale of around 80 helicopters of varying types across the civil market worldwide. The partnership has allowed us to open up new markets for our products and at the same time establish a joint sales network built on mutual expertise and support.

Customers benefit from access to helicopter models with Leonardo's stamp of manufacturing quality and support standards allied with a reliable and cost-effective service.

Stefano Villanti, SVP Sales for Leonardo Helicopters, commented: "By renewing this collaboration together with Rotortrade we will be able to pursue new opportunities while delivering the best solutions for those who seek an ideal combination of affordability, capability and serviceability. We look forward to continuing to meet the evolving requirements in a market that complements the one for new helicopters."

AW169M LUH TO STRENGTHEN ITALY-AUSTRIA COLLABORATION



We are pleased to announce the signing of a contract between Leonardo and the Italian Secretariat General of Defence/National Armaments Directorate covering the supply of AW169M Light Utility Helicopters (LUH) to Austria's Ministry of Defence.

The €346 million acquisition contract was signed within the framework of the Italy-Austria Government-to-Government Agreement, which seeks to strengthen bilateral collaboration between the two countries and to establish a strategic partnership in the rotorcraft sector.

Austria is looking at Italy and the AW169M LUH programme as the solution to its requirement to replace an ageing fleet of Alouette III helicopters, which have been in service since the 1960s. The contract covers the supply of 18 AW169M LUHs, including six training variant helicopters and 12 advanced multi-role variants that will be equipped with integrated mission equipment and weapon systems.

The contract also comprises a comprehensive training and support package including dedicated training and simulation devices with aircraft deliveries expected to begin before the end of 2022 and continuing through to 2026. The agreement also has options for a further 18 helicopters.

The AW169M LUH will be capable of tackling a wide range of missions including troop transport, combat operations, disaster and emergency response, firefighting, mountain rescue and MEDEVAC. Austrian crews will benefit from initial training delivered with the support of the Italian Army and its expertise as an AW169M LUH operator.

Commenting on the agreement, Gian Piero Cutillo, Managing Director of Leonardo Helicopters, said: "This contract is further testament to the superior performance, unmatched latest generation capabilities and the complete support and training solutions of the AW169M to perform true multi-role operations, meeting the most demanding needs of operators and for their personnel's effectiveness and safety. The type will ensure a significant leap forward for national defence and emergency response in Austria."



ITALIAN ARMY'S UH-169BS REACH FLIGHT HOURS MILESTONE

The Italian Army's UH-169B training helicopters have achieved the landmark of 1,000 operational flight hours – an important step in preparing for the transition to an all-new advanced multi-role Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) as part of a major fleet modernisation.

Two AW169 twin-engine basic training helicopters – designated as the UH-169B by the Italian Army – entered service in the second half of 2020 enabling crews to familiarise themselves with the helicopter's basic characteristics during development of the LUH. We are also providing a package of logistics and training support for both crews and maintainers to ensure high levels of availability and operational readiness.

The Italian Army has recognised the significance of the UH-169B in supporting the transition to the new LUH platform, commenting: "This is an important step for the Italian Army Aviation, in cooperation with Leonardo, towards the future."

The LUH will be developed from the AW169 dual-use baseline and the programme will enable a significant modernisation and rationalisation of the fleet. The aim is for the AW169 LUH to replace a range of ageing models including the A109, AB206, AB205, AB212 and AB412 to better meet evolving operational requirements.

The AW169 LUH is specifically tailored to Italian Army requirements and builds on the characteristics of the AW169M military version. It will also provide the advantage of unique logistical, operational and technical, certification and training commonalities and synergies across the growing AW169 fleets of government operators in Italy.

The ability to conduct joint operations with other users of the AW169 will bring an entirely new level of capability across missions including homeland security and emergency response for decades to come.

The AW169 LUH will feature an advanced configuration that includes dedicated flight/mission equipment such as skid landing gear, the Leonardo Multi Aperture InfraRed (MAIR) threat warning system and an advanced C4 command, control and communication system to grant full interoperability with other NATO assets. The Italian Army will initially receive 15 AW169 LUHs starting in 2023.



AW139 COMPLETES SUCCESSFUL DEMO TOUR IN PERU

The AW139 has completed a successful three-day demonstration tour in Peru where the aircraft showcased its capabilities to delegations from both the civil and military sectors. The tour took place in December and saw an AW139, which was provided by Colombian operator Helistar, fly a range of missions and landings at altitudes of 11,000ft. The AW139 was located at the Policía Nacional del Perú base at El Callao Airport in Lima for the duration of its stay.

Over the three days, we presented the AW139 to delegations from the Peruvian National Police, the Peruvian Armed Forces and representatives from mining companies

operating in the country. We received excellent feedback from all the delegations, many of which commented on the AW139's hot and high performance, as well as the glass cockpit and automation on board.

The Peruvian military and law enforcement fleet includes more than 100 helicopters with an average age of 24 years. We envisage the AW139 being a strong contender to replace many of these aircraft and we were delighted to spend time in-country discussing the requirements of operators in the region and answering their questions about the AW139.



NORWAY RECEIVES 13TH AWSAR HELICOPTER

The AW101 global fleet is going from strength to strength with the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security recently accepting the 13th AW101 All Weather Search and Rescue Helicopter (AWSAR) from a batch of 16 that are on order.

The delivery will be vital to the go-live of Base 3 at Banak as 330 Squadron of the Royal Norwegian Air Force continues to operate the fleet for a wide range of SAR missions. It is also one of several key milestones achieved by the AW101 in recent months, including the global fleet reaching the landmark of 500,000 flight hours.

Meanwhile, the helicopter continues to demonstrate its capability in the most demanding conditions. In Canada, the CH-149 Cormorant version of the AW101 undertook rescue missions in British Columbia in November 2021 when the province was affected by severe flooding and mudslides. The Cormorant fleet flew for eight to nine hours a day evacuating hundreds of people from the area around the community of Agassiz.



The AW101 also reached an important milestone for our Polish Navy customer in the final quarter of 2021 when the second AW101 made its maiden flight following on first aircraft flying in summer 2021. Under the programme, we will supply four AW101s to the Polish Navy which will significantly enhance its rotary wing capabilities.

MITHOS: VIRTUAL REALITY TRAINING FOR REAR CREW

We're proud to launch a new era of training for mission and cabin crew operators with MITHOS – Leonardo's Modular Interactive Trainer for Helicopter Operators. MITHOS, live in April 2022, provides a fully immersive experience that takes training to a new level of realism.

Thanks to MITHOS, hoist operators benefit from a highly realistic and interactive virtual environment where students can be trained on all types of rescue scenarios and weather conditions, in both normal and abnormal situations, including emergency procedures.

The Virtual Reality concept enables rear crew and cabin operators to experience:

- Fully immersive hoist operation training for ab-initio, advance and recurrent training for hoist operators, pilots, rescuers and medics
- On-type cabin familiarisation and orientation
- Safety procedures including malfunctions and emergency situations.

The next step is represented by the connection of MITHOS with our range of Full Flight Simulators: a unique multi-crew training experience that creates a fully representative mission environment.

To experience MITHOS for yourself, please contact the Training Academy team through the Customer Account Manager network or via the contact details below to schedule a trial session.

TrainingOperationsControl.aw@leonardo.com



WATCH THE VIDEO →→→→→

TAKING DIGITAL MAPS TO A NEW LEVEL FOR THE AW189 AND AW169

We recognise the role that Digital Maps (DMAPs) play in providing a vital tool for pilots to perform missions effectively. We are pleased to bring a new dimension to this capability via the Digital Maps Service – a new concept which enables operators to tailor maps and aeronautical information onboard the AW189 and AW169 to improve the flight experience even further.

Introduced as part of our Advanced Services, the dedicated Digital Maps Service gives operators the ability to create a customised set of maps on the AW189 and AW169 Digital Maps Generator (DMG), providing complete worldwide coverage and with different combinations of views as well as frequent updates.

The worldwide Digital Maps are developed by our in-house team and are designed to improve the pilot's flight experience, using the same layout and format for all resolutions, anywhere in the world.

Information shown on the DMG can be defined choosing the type of map (e.g. scale resolution, aeronautical information, obstacles, etc.) and adapting it with many advanced settings. All the Digital Maps are selectable as a 'layer' on the onboard DMG, showing simultaneously up to three layers on the screen, to create 'combined views' in support of specific needs.



We can also deliver a completely tailored set of maps, integrated in the DMG with the required private/reserved information in the preferred style/symbology. Operators can subscribe to different levels of service, both in terms of the type of maps and the frequency of updates, with a specific area in high quality/resolution in scales of 1:5,000,000 to 1:7,000.

For the AW189 and AW169, the service covers all the different DMG phases, including the newest PH 6.

WARSAW HOSTS GLOBAL DEFENCE HELICOPTER CONFERENCE

The future of rotorcraft, including the evolution of platforms technology and weapons, were among the themes when more than 300 delegates gathered for the Global Defence Helicopter Conference which took place in Warsaw in November.

The event heralded a welcome return to face-to-face conferences after almost two years of travel restrictions due to Covid-19 and it attracted speakers from the US, South America, Europe and Asia representing both end users and OEMs.

As one of our four domestic markets and home to our PZL-Świdnik business, Poland represents a strategically important market and were pleased to provide insights on four specific campaigns in Poland involving the AW101, AW139, AW149 and AW249. The conference also provided an early opportunity to raise awareness of the capabilities of the new AW249 combat helicopter to a wider audience – a product that attracted significant interest during the event.

We also highlighted the wider Leonardo Helicopters product portfolio, including our presence in the unmanned sector through the AWHEREO Rotary Unmanned Air System (RUAS).

Some recurring themes emerged during the conference, particularly for battlefield/land and maritime operations, which included improved reliability, ease of maintenance, reducing the supply chain, and reducing lifecycle costs. There was a strong emphasis on the need for capabilities including increased range, speed and payload, as well as enhanced survivability.

It was clear from military organisations present that a number of users are aiming to streamline their fleets with a single type and fewer aircraft to cover the capabilities required. There was, therefore, discussion about multi-role helicopters and the provision of a standard platform upon which to build the specific capabilities needed by each customer.

The requirement for a ‘plug and play’ digital backbone and Modular Open Systems Architecture (MOSA) was also a recurring topic throughout the event, as well as discussion surrounding the importance of training and logistic support solutions.



QATAR'S NH90 PROGRAMME MARKS FIRST DELIVERY

Qatar's NH90 helicopter programme has reached an important milestone with delivery of the first aircraft. The first Tactical Transport Helicopter (TTH) overland variant was delivered in December and were followed by the initial NATO Frigate Helicopter (NFH) version just recently. Both types, which will be operated by the Qatar Emiri Air Force, were given their public premiere during Qatar's National Day on 18th December.

We made available the first NFH helicopter ahead of its final delivery so that it could participate in Qatar National Day celebrations. The helicopter was shipped from Tessera, joining the first TTH helicopter which arrived from the Airbus Helicopters facility in Marignane, France.

Qatar has ordered 16 NH90 TTHs for land operations, 12 NH90 NFHs for naval missions, alongside a comprehensive support, maintenance and training services package and associated infrastructure. Deliveries will continue through to 2025. The programme could be extended in future with the addition of 6 + 6 units in a mixture of TTH and NFH variants.

The NH90 is Europe's largest military helicopter programme and is managed through the NHIndustries joint venture. Leonardo acts as prime contractor on the programme and we are responsible for the final assembly and delivery of the 12 NH90 NFH helicopters from our Venice Tessera facility and are providing support and training services for both crews and technicians.



IAERO OPENS ITS DOORS TO INNOVATION

A new £10 million aerospace innovation centre has opened for business in South West England providing a hub for collaboration on critical challenges such as sustainable aviation. We are delighted to be a leading partner in the iAero project, which is located alongside our world-class facility in Yeovil, Somerset.

iAero is a purpose-built research, design and innovation centre covering approximately 2,400m² of space and will enable the aerospace industry to tap into the capabilities of small and medium enterprises which are looking to collaborate on new products and solutions. The aim is to keep the region at the forefront of aerospace innovation, including advanced technologies to reduce emissions.

One of a handful of aerospace innovation centres nationwide, the facility has been funded by Somerset County Council, the UK Government's Local Growth Fund and the England European Regional Development Fund.

Nick Whitney, Managing Director of Leonardo Helicopters UK, said: "Yeovil has a long history in aerospace. The iAero centre marks the next frontier for the aerospace community in Somerset. The freedom to explore, experiment, and engineer at the centre will ensure the region remains at the cutting-edge of innovative flight technologies."



GLOBAL VECTRA HELICORP LTD INTRODUCES AW169 AIR AMBULANCE INTO INDIAN OFFSHORE OPERATIONS

We are pleased to announce that Global Vectra Helicorp Ltd (GVHL) has successfully introduced the first dedicated AW169 air ambulance into the offshore market in India. GVHL is a leading helicopter operator in India and has achieved this milestone after six months of careful preparation.



The AW169 features lifesaving equipment and two stretchers. The air ambulance is crewed by two pilots and supported by trained paramedics. The AW169 also provides night-time medevac capability to GVHL's client for their offshore facilities/operations.

Designed around the patient's needs, the AW169 is ideally suited to life-saving primary and secondary missions and rescue services. Thanks to its advanced technologies and flexibility, the AW169 guarantees a rapid emergency response—even for long-distance inter-hospital transport or for Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Search and Rescue (SAR) missions at high altitude. The helicopter ensures that air medical professionals can be there when it counts, providing the highest levels of care.

AW139 SELECTED BY US GOVERNMENT'S NNSA

We continue to strengthen our presence in the US Government market with the signing of a contract for two AW139 helicopters with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Both aircraft are expected to be delivered in 2024.

The NNSA is part of the US Department of Energy and its helicopters are responsible for security sweeps at high-profile events such as the Super Bowl as well as for disaster relief operations. The AW139's built-in safety features, rapid response, search and rescue capabilities and endurance were among the key factors in its selection.

The NNSA helicopters operate from two locations, the first at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland and the second at Henderson Airport in Nevada. When they enter service, the two AW139s will be deployed for two main missions—search and rescue, and disaster topography scans.

The AW139's integrated avionics system will enable the NNSA to gain maximum benefit from its sensors and comprehensive communications suite. Combined with the AW139's class-leading performance and safety features, the NNSA will be equipped to respond to evolving mission needs.

Clyde Woltman, President of Leonardo Helicopters USA, commented: "This contract with the NNSA further strengthens our relationship with the US Government. We look forward to delivering more aircraft to aid in the security of the United States."



AW609 AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH EUROPEAN OPERATOR

The AW609 has reached another exciting milestone with confirmation that we have signed an agreement with a European operator to deploy four AW609 TiltRotors for passenger and utility transport missions in support of point-to-point operations worldwide.

The agreement with the undisclosed customer – a longstanding operator of Leonardo helicopters – will see the AW609s equipped with different dedicated configurations including VIP/corporate and passenger/utility transport.

The announcement follows on from the AW609's presentation in Dubai in late 2021 which marked the global commercial launch of the multi-role aircraft as it continues on the path towards the world's first civil certification for a tiltrotor.

The AW609 features a unique combination of turboprop-like performance alongside the versatility of a helicopter. Its ability to provide rapid point-to-point transportation over long distances will help to revolutionise air mobility across a range of missions including passenger transport, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Search and Rescue (SAR), and patrol.

The first production AW609 recently began ground testing at our site in Philadelphia, while the second production aircraft is being assembled at the same facility. The overall AW609 programme has logged more than 1,700 flight hours in the USA and Italy to date.



FALCON AVIATION SERVICES SIGNS LOI FOR TWO AW169s

We are delighted to confirm the signing of a Letter of Intent (LOI) with Falcon Aviation Services to purchase two latest generation AW169 light intermediate twin helicopters in offshore configuration. The aircraft are intended to expand the operator's existing AW169 fleet in support of the energy industry in Africa.

Falcon Aviation Services (FAS) is a well-established AW169 operator with five aircraft already delivered. The company is the global launch operator for the offshore-configured AW169 and deploys its fleet for offshore and VVIP missions in the United Arab Emirates and internationally.

The first AW169 introduced into service by FAS is the fleet leader having logged around 2,700 flight hours out of a total of more than 100,000 hours across the entire AW169 fleet worldwide, which spans over 130 aircraft across all operators.

The introduction of the AW169 is bringing new levels of capability and safety to support operations in the oil and gas industry, as well as transport missions. FAS is based in the UAE and is a leading player in both the oil and gas sector and the business aviation market. The company is also a prime partner for Leonardo with a fleet of 14 helicopters which includes five AW189 super-medium aircraft, four AW109 Grand/Grand New light twins in addition to its AW169s.



AW169 GLOBAL FLEET EXCEEDS 100,000 FLIGHT HOURS

The AW169 has achieved another important landmark with the global fleet passing 100,000 flight hours. With over 290 orders and options to date from customers worldwide and more than 130 helicopters already in service globally, the AW169 continues to excel across a range of missions.

Operators are deploying the helicopter in roles including utility, surveillance, maritime patrol, land reconnaissance, training, medical and rescue, firefighting, energy services, and executive and private transport. The next-generation AW169 combines class-leading performance with superior range and safety, meeting customers' evolving requirements.

We congratulate all our customers and AW169 operators worldwide for passing the 100,000 flight hours milestone, which demonstrates the versatility of the AW169 as it delivers unrivalled operational capability in the most challenging conditions.



LEVEL D CERTIFICATION FOR AW139 FULL FLIGHT SIMULATOR IN JAPAN

Continuous attention to the customer has always been one of Leonardo's priorities. An example of success in this area is the collaboration between the Customer Support, Services & Training team and our local partner in Japan, Fuji Aviation Systems (FAS), which is part of the Suzuyo Group. The collaboration will see the opening of a Training Academy close to Shizuoka airport in the Prefecture of Shizuoka, offering Leonardo Helicopters customers a wide range of tailor-made solutions.

FAS aims to take on the role of Partner for Training Services for the AW139, able to meet the needs and requirements of operators and customers in the area, with the aim of becoming an Approved Training Centre.

The company has already made significant progress by ordering and putting into operation a series of training systems, including e-learning stations and a fixed-base simulator (Enhanced Training Device), while in December 2021 a Full Flight Simulator (FFS) was delivered and accepted.

The AW139 Full Flight Simulator is a Series 3000 device built by CAE. Located in the FAS facility, the simulator is operated and managed by FAS instructors and personnel, trained at Leonardo Helicopters Training Academy in Sesto Calende to deliver a wide range of OEM training courses.

Also in December, FAS welcomed the National Authority (JCAB), and on January 4, 2022, the FFS was officially certified to the Level D standard, becoming the first of its type ever certified in Japan.

This is a proud moment for the Training Academy and the team that supported the customer, having delivered all the training systems on time despite the difficulties faced in the last two years.

The AW139 FFS provides highly realistic type and mission training thanks to a Japan-specific environment database. The simulator enables pilots to practise challenging procedures without risk, such as low-level flight, confined area operations, auto-rotations and landing on platforms at sea. At its facility, FAS will also offer theoretical training courses for Japanese AW139 pilots in collaboration with the Training Academy.



VICTORIA POLICE AIR WING REACHES 5,000 FLIGHT HOUR MILESTONE WITH AW139

Victoria Police (VICPOL) Air Wing in Australia has achieved a significant milestone with its AW139 fleet. The multi-role policing helicopter operation has now reached 5,000 flying hours since the new service with StarFlight began in June 2020.

This is a significant milestone for the 10-year contract that was stood up during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and maintains exceptional availability for VICPOL.

StarFlight's locally-based engineers provide support and technical expertise, ensuring that the integrity and capability of the aircraft is always maintained.

This capability enables airborne police teams to provide tactical deployment, rescue, search, aerial observation, training, transport and public reassurance tasking.



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