

Eurocopter Recognized by the French Aviation Safety Agency (DSAé) for its Quality Standards in Helicopter Maintenance and Military Equipment

Marignane, April 06, 2012

On March 29, Eurocopter received FRA145 approval from the French Aviation Safety Agency (DSAé) following a series of audits conducted by the DSAé in 2011. As a result, the world's number one helicopter manufacturer in the civil and parapublic sectors has been entrusted with maintaining French government helicopters and military hardware at the Marignane, La Courneuve and Cazaux sites. The award of FRA145 certification consolidates the actions Eurocopter has undertaken in enhancing the quality of the services it offers its government clients.

The French Aviation Safety Agency was created in 2010 to oversee the safety of the French government (Air Force, Army, Navy, DGA¹, Gendarmerie, Civil Security and Customs) for three ministries (Defense, Interior and Budget), which represents in a total a fleet of 1,600 airplanes and helicopters.

The presentation ceremony was attended by Brigadier General Mary, Head of Airworthiness at the DSAé, a delegation of DGA auditors, and Mr. Derek Sharples, Executive Vice President of Support and Services at Eurocopter. Stressing the importance of the work successfully undertaken by the teams who pooled their resources and expertise under the supervision of the Support & Services' Quality Department, Sharples stated: "We decided a few months ago to embark upon this challenge. It was a proactive decision on our part, but we felt it was important to be among the first to obtain this certification and to implement a sustainable process that complies with the standardization regulations of the French authorities. This recognition of our technical capabilities is also a reflection of our commitment to serving the French government as best we can as it pursues its policy of optimizing the maintenance of its helicopter fleet and seeks to enhance the availability of its aircraft."

General Mary awarded Eurocopter with the approval certificate, which applies to the maintenance of the French government's EC725 and AS532/AS332 helicopters (periodic and major inspections), Makila engines and related equipment. At the end of the ceremony, General Mary expressed his thanks to Eurocopter's teams, in particular for the responsiveness of the people involved in the process.

Eurocopter is the third manufacturer to obtain FRA145 certification, which should be extended in due course to the Tiger, EC135 and EC145 helicopters.

(1) French Defense Procurement Agency



About Eurocopter

Established in 1992, the Franco-German-Spanish Eurocopter Group is a division of EADS, a world leader in aerospace and defense-related services. The Eurocopter Group employs approximately 20,000 people. In 2011, Eurocopter confirmed its position as the world's number one helicopter manufacturer with a turnover of 5.4 billion Euros, orders for 457 new helicopters and a 43 percent market share in the civil and parapublic sectors. Overall, the Group's helicopters account for 33 percent of the worldwide civil and parapublic fleet. Eurocopter's strong international presence is ensured by its subsidiaries and participations in 21 countries. Eurocopter's worldwide network of service centers, training facilities, distributors and certified agents supports some 2,900 customers. There are currently more than 11,300 Eurocopter helicopters in service in 149 countries. Eurocopter offers the most comprehensive civil and military helicopter range in the world and is fully committed to safety as the most important aspect of its business.

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