

## Eurocopter and Morocco: a long and successful helicopter partnership from the Alouette to the latest EC225

Marrakech, Morocco, April 3, 2012

Marrakech Air Show 2012

**The key role of Eurocopter helicopters in Morocco’s homeland security, law enforcement, medical airlift, rescue and military mobility will be highlighted at this week’s Marrakech Air Show, where the company is marking five decades of its rotary-wing aircraft operations throughout the North African nation.**

Eurocopter’s participation in the third biannual aerospace exposition at Marrakech Airport will include the presence of Eurocopter’s multi-role AS550 Fennec, which is equipped with rockets and a high efficiency 20 mm. gun.

“This year’s Marrakech Air Show underscores a 50-year relationship of Eurocopter and Morocco that has been based on a spirit of confidence and loyalty, with a full range of our products serving the Kingdom – from the cornerstone Alouette to the latest EC225” explained Loïc Porcheron, the Eurocopter Vice-President for Middle East and Africa. “Eurocopter stands ready to continue supporting Morocco’s evolving mission requirements over the long-term.”

The country’s largest Eurocopter fleet is operated by the Royal Moroccan Air Forces, like SA342 Gazelle and AS330 Puma used for armed reconnaissance, troop transport to support and logistics. The Royal Moroccan Navy operates AS565 Panther for search and rescue, coastal surveillance, and deployments at sea on frigates. An inventory of helicopters from Gazelle to Super Puma family is flown by the Royal Moroccan Gendarmerie for a very large panel of missions from search and rescue, medical airlift and anti-crime to VIP transport.

With more than 600 rotary-wing aircraft currently in service throughout the Africa and Middle East, Eurocopter helicopters are performing a full range of missions in daily service, from homeland defense and security to law enforcement, VIP transport, utility and offshore airlift for the oil and gas industry.

### **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 currently are 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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