

Japan's Ministry of Defense to acquire a Eurocopter EC225 for passenger transportation

Tokyo, 14 March 2012

Eurocopter Japan, a subsidiary of Eurocopter Group, will supply one EC225 to the Japan Ministry of Defense, to be operated by the Japanese ground self defense force for passenger transport. It is a replacement for the same helicopter model which was submerged during the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan in March last year.

The Japan Ministry of Defense signed a contract on 8th March 2012 with Eurocopter to acquire an EC225, a heavy twin-engine helicopter from Eurocopter's Super Puma family. It had a fleet of three EC225s, but one of which was submerged during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. The procurement of the new 11-ton helicopter is meant as a replacement for the damaged aircraft.

Offering high cruise speed, long range coverage and high level of comfort thanks to the spacious cabin and low vibration, this aircraft is popularly used for passenger transportation and search and rescue missions all over the world.

Since the major earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on 11th March last year, various public sectors in Japan have been boosting their rotary-wing aircraft fleet, seeing the benefits of helicopters in times of large-scale disasters. Besides being able to carry out relief efforts safely and efficiently, helicopters also proved to be the fastest and safest mode of transport, as public transportation systems were badly affected.

"The strength of the EC225 was clearly demonstrated during the disaster relief efforts, which was very much appreciated by our customers," said Stephane Ginoux, President & CEO of Eurocopter Japan. Recent procurements of this model by the Japan Coast Guard, Tokyo Fire Department, and now the Ministry of Defense, have given great recognition to the capability of the EC225. Eurocopter Japan will also continue to provide efficient services to ensure uninterrupted operations for our customers."

The EC225 for the Ministry of Defense will be delivered in February 2015.

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.

www.eurocopter.com

About Eurocopter Japan

Eurocopter Japan Co.,Ltd was established in April 2009 as a subsidiary of Eurocopter (90%) and Itochu Corporation (10%). In July 2009, Eurocopter Japan established Eurocopter Japan T&E. Co.,Ltd, a joint venture with ANAM. After these two acquisitions, Eurocopter became the first foreign affiliated company in this field to become a full fledged industrial player in Japan. With around 55% market share in the civil and parapublic sectors, a fleet of 320 helicopters and 50 years of presence in Japan, Eurocopter Japan will continue to contribute to Japanese customers and the society by improving safety, usability and the cost efficiency of the air by providing excellent products and consummate services.

www.eurocopter.co.jp

For more information, please contact:

Priscilla Yip

Tel: +65 6592 7217

Mob: +65 9660 7040

Priscilla.yip@eurocoptersea.com.sg

