AIRBUS GROUP GROWS WITH SAFE AIR

Auckland, 22 June 2015 – Leading aerospace company Airbus Group Australia Pacific has grown its business through the acquisition of Safe Air, securing its future as a regional integrated through-life-support provider.

Airbus Group Australia Pacific – a member of Airbus Helicopters and Airbus Group – finalised the deal with Safe Air's former owners, Air New Zealand. From 1 July 2015, Safe Air will become a fully integrated part of Airbus Group Australia Pacific, retaining its name, staff and operations in Blenheim, Ohakea, Auckland and Melbourne.

Commenting on the successful acquisition, Dr Jens Goennemann Managing Director Airbus Group Australia Pacific spoke of the natural fit between the two companies.

"Airbus Group Australia Pacific and Safe Air are old friends and business partners, having previously worked successfully together on a number of programs. Bringing Safe Air into the Airbus Group has long been a goal of ours as its capabilities, both technical and personnel, are complementary to those of Airbus Group and will enhance our position in the region.

"As the outgoing Managing Director of Airbus Group Australia Pacific, this is the last item to cross off my list; to strengthen the base in New Zealand upon which our business can grow. And as a relatively newly-confirmed Australian citizen I am delighted to have been able to play a part in the formation of this new Trans-Tasman partnership."

Safe Air is a recognised leader in aviation maintenance, repair, overhaul (MRO), design and manufacturing. The company has capability with Rolls Royce T56 and Pratt & Whitney engines, C-130 and P3 Orion airframes, propeller repair and overhaul, as well as helicopter expertise.

About Airbus Group Australia Pacific (www.airbusgroupap.com.au)

Airbus Group Australia Pacific is a part of Airbus Group, a global pioneer in aerospace and defence related services whose companies include Airbus, Airbus Helicopters and Airbus Defence and Space.

Wholly owned by Airbus Helicopters, Airbus Group Australia Pacific represents Airbus Group in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific and is the region's largest helicopter manufacturer, employing more than 1400 people across 15 sites in Australia and New Zealand. With the largest market share in civilian and military helicopters, the company supports more than 500 Airbus Helicopters and is well recognised as a leading Through-Life-Support provider in military fixed wing and helicopter platforms.

Nathan Pick
Tel: + 61 (0)7 3637 3906
Mob: + 61 (0)439 676 909
nathan.pick@ausaero.com.au

Ted Porter
Tel: + 61 (0)2 9436 0200
Mob: + 61 (0)418 468 269
aamctedp@bigpond.com