

Helitech International

## **Avincis finalizes order for two EC135 T3s with Airbus Helicopters**

The two latest-version aircraft will support Bond Air Services' EMS operations in the UK.

Amsterdam, Netherlands, 15 October 2014 – Airbus Helicopters is proud to build on its partnership with Avincis, a Babcock International Group company, with an order for two latest-generation EC135 T3s for emergency medical service (EMS) operations.

“Air ambulances save lives every day. Adding these new EC135 T3s to our fleet will help us to deliver vital EMS missions for our customers,” said Martin Whittaker, Avincis Director of Fleet & Engineering.

Avincis' subsidiary Bond Air Services will operate the two aircraft, which will be delivered in the summer of 2015.

Airbus Helicopters has a wide presence in EMS operations around the world, including a 70% share of this segment in the UK. The Airbus Helicopters UK customer center covers the full spectrum of sales and support throughout the lifetime of all the company's helicopters in the region.

“Airbus Helicopters continuously strives to offer aircraft that fully meet to the evolving needs of its customers, and this is precisely what we bring with the new EC135 T3/P3,” said Dominique Maudet, Executive Vice President of Global Business and Services at Airbus Helicopters. “With this order, we are proud to congratulate Bond Air Services on their success in UK EMS missions and further strengthen our longstanding partnership with Avincis.”

The EC135 T3/P3 is the latest-generation version of the company's proven EC135 helicopter, and is perfectly suited for the demanding requirements of EMS and law enforcement missions, in particular thanks to its cabin size and rear clamshell doors, allowing for an ease of access. The main upgrades of the T3/P3 version (T3 with a Turbomeca engine and P3 with a Pratt & Whitney) are focused on a new main rotor design, new direct air intakes and new FADEC software. These technical improvements offer an increased Maximum Take-Off Weight (MTOW), significant performance enhancement from AEO and OEI-CAT A from Sea Level to hot & high environments, and increased mission capability and versatility. This latest version of the EC135 was launched in 2013, and its type certification is expected for mid-October. The first delivery will take place later this month.

## **About Avincis**

Avincis, a Babcock International Group company, is one of the world's leading providers of aviation services for mission-critical operations such as medical emergency, civil protection, search & rescue, coast and city surveillance, firefighting and energy support services. Based in the UK, Avincis provides central resources, safety and operating standards and systems and expertise to its operating companies who serve local markets and customers in Australia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Italy, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the UK. Of primary importance is Avincis' oversight of safety standards across all its operations, with a global target of zero accidents.

Avincis operates a fleet of around 350 aircraft and employs around 3000 people. In 2013, Avincis flew over 98,500 hours worldwide, performed 51,450 emergency medical service missions, 6,350 firefighting missions, 2,100 seas and mountains rescues and transported 173,000 oil and gas engineers, technicians and other passengers. Avincis also conducts maintenance for third-party clients on helicopter and fixed-wing contracts.

[www.avincisgroup.com](http://www.avincisgroup.com)

## **About Airbus Helicopters**

Airbus Helicopters, formerly Eurocopter, is a division of Airbus Group, a global pioneer in aerospace and defense related services. Airbus Helicopters is the world's No. 1 helicopter manufacturer and employs more than 23,000 people worldwide. With 46 percent market share in civil and parapublic sectors, the company's fleet in service includes some 12,000 helicopters operated by more than 3,000 customers in approximately 150 countries. Airbus Helicopters' international presence is marked by its customer centers and participations in 21 countries, and its worldwide network of service centers, training facilities, distributors and certified agents. Airbus Helicopters' range of civil and military helicopters is the world's largest; its aircraft account for one third of the worldwide civil and parapublic fleet. The company's chief priority is to ensure the safe operation of its aircraft for the thousands of people who fly more than 3 million hours per year.

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