Eurocopter books a new EC135 helicopter order in India and delivers another to an Indian operator

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Aero India 2013

A record nine units of Eurocopter's EC135 was sold in 2012, making it the most sought-after light twin-engine helicopter in India. The growing popularity of the EC135 in India was further demonstrated by a new order from one Indian customer and the delivery of an EC135 to another, at the Aero India 2013 exhibition.

Eurocopter signed a contract for the sale of one EC135 to Ghodawat Industries for this Indian company's business aviation requirements. Configured with seating for four passengers, the helicopter will be delivered in May this year and is to replace the company's smaller Eurocopter EC120.

Separately, Eurocopter provided a new EC135 to Mahindra & Mahindra, for corporate transportation use. Mahindra's aerospace manufacturing arm, Mahindra Aerospace, is a valued partner of Eurocopter, both parties having forged a trade partnership focused on the manufacture of subassemblies, engineering and customization of civil helicopters, and the joint development of specific market segments in India.

"In 2012, the majority of new contracts we signed with Indian customers were for the EC135," stated Eurocopter India CEO Xavier Hay. "The Ecureuil and Dauphin families have been leading the light-single and medium-class segments respectively in India. The EC135 has now made its mark to be the helicopter of choice for customers looking for light twin-engine rotorcraft products."

There are over 1,000 EC135 in operation around the world for a broad range of missions, including law enforcement, emergency medical services (EMS), rescue operations and business aviation. It is especially well-received by EMS operators due to its large, unobstructed cabin, oversized sliding side doors and rear clamshell door that enable rapid loading/unloading of passengers and equipment. The Fenestron shrouded tail rotor is another welcomed feature that not only makes the EC135 a quiet machine to fly in the city, but also provides additional safety on the ground for passengers and crew; hence its increasing popularity in the corporate transport and business aviation market.

About Eurocopter India Pvt Limited

On October 20, 2010, Eurocopter inaugurated its new Indian subsidiary, which has been given the goals of expanding the world's largest helicopter manufacturer's commercial presence in this highly-promising marketplace, reinforcing its support and services network throughout the country, and further developing the company's five-decade relationship with the Indian industry. Eurocopter India is the 25th subsidiary established worldwide by Eurocopter and the 10th in Asia. It is the first and only foreign helicopter manufacturer to have created a full-fledged subsidiary in India. The subsidiary is headquartered in New Delhi and has an existing facility in Bangalore for the management of industrial activity. A new commercial office was opened in Mumbai in 2012.





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 22,000 people. In 2012, Eurocopter confirmed its position as the world's No. 1 helicopter manufacturer with a turnover of 6.3 billion Euros, orders for 469 new helicopters and a 44 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 more than 2,900 customers. There are currently more than 11,780 Eurocopter helicopters in service in 148 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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