Iraq Ministry of Defence orders 12 Airbus H225M helicopters

Airbus Helicopters has been awarded a contract for 12 H225M multi-role helicopters by the Republic of Iraq. The contract was signed in Baghdad by the Minister of Defence of Iraq Mr Thabet al-Abbassi in the presence of the French Ambassador Patrick Durel. These helicopters will be operated by the Iraqi Army Aviation command replacing older Mi-17s for a wider range of missions: counter-terrorism, special operations, tactical troop transport, attack, ground fire support, MEDEVAC and combat search and rescue. Deliveries will start in 2025. Iraq already operates a fleet of Airbus helicopters from the H125, H135 and H145 families.

“We are very pleased to welcome a new member in the H225M family,” said Bruno Even, CEO of Airbus Helicopters. “The H225M is a combat-proven platform used around the world by many operators, including the French Air Force, for combat search and rescue missions. It has proven its worth and saved many lives since entering into service,” he added. “The H225M is unmatched in terms of range, payload and also mission systems. It has been designed to operate challenging missions in the most demanding environments. We are looking forward to seeing the H225M contribute to Iraq’s safety and sovereignty.”

The H225M has proven its reliability and durability in combat conditions and crisis areas. Benefiting from Airbus’ continuous improvement policy, the H225M is now equipped with new avionics, an enhanced main gear box, airborne communication systems and can be equipped with the HForce weapon system. The maximum take off weight has been increased by 160 kg to reach 11,160 kg.

There are more than 350 H225s and H225Ms in service across the world, totaling more than 880,000 flight hours. Military customers include France, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Mexico, Kuwait, Brazil, and Hungary.

Quelle
Airbus Press Release 06 September 2024

Boeing Offers CH-47 Chinook for Poland’s Heavy Transport Helicopter Needs

- *Increases airlift capabilities of the Polish Armed Forces*
- *Provides greater interoperability with allied nations*
- *Serves as force multiplier when operating with Apache helicopters*

Boeing [NYSE: BA] is offering the CH-47 Chinook heavy-lift helicopter to Poland. The announcement was made at the annual MSPO International Defence Industry Exhibition where Boeing is highlighting advanced defense systems, capabilities and services.

“The Chinook has been a key part of the European defense and humanitarian relief missions for more than five decades and would enhance Poland’s cooperation with allied forces, and support the country’s defense needs,” said Tim Flood, senior director, International Business Development for Europe and Americas. “In addition, the Chinook would deliver additional benefits to Poland through job creation, economic growth and greater autonomy for the Polish defense industry.”

The CH-47F Block II is the newest iteration of the Chinook, providing increased lift and range. Chinook Block II is a modernized and ready now solution that provides increased operational flexibility, improved performance, and enhanced survivability. It builds upon the proven capabilities of the CH-47 Chinook, offering an upgraded platform that meets the

capability that militaries need today and serves as a strong foundation for affordable future upgrades.

“Operating the Chinook in tandem with the newly acquired Apaches will serve as a force multiplier for the Polish Armed Forces due to their complementary capabilities,” said Adam Hodges, Business Development for Vertical Lift Programs. “The combination of the Apache and Chinook helicopters provides greater operational effectiveness and the ability to conduct a wider range of missions.”

With more than 950 aircraft in 20 countries, the Chinook has a long history of successful operations worldwide and has been extensively used in various military operations and humanitarian missions. Germany is the 21st customer and the 9th NATO nation to have selected the Chinook as its heavy-lift helicopter.

Quelle
Boeing Press Release 05 September 2024

Air China and China Southern receive their first C919 aircraft

Air China Limited (hereinafter referred to as Air China) and China Southern Airlines Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as China Southern) simultaneously received their first C919 aircraft at Pudong base of the Assembly Manufacturing Center of Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China, Ltd. (COMAC) on August 28th, 2024, which marks that C919 aircraft will enter a new phase of operation by multiple users.

The delivery ceremony is themed with “building glorious future together, and soaring hand in hand”. At the site of the delivery ceremony, as the door of the hangar was opened slowly, the first C919 aircraft of Air China painted with the Five-Starred Red Flag and the first C919 aircraft of China Southern painted with the red kapok were presented at the same time, adding radiance and beauty to each other. COMAC issued Aircraft Sales Certificate and delivered a commemorative key of the aircraft to Air China and China Southern respectively. Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) issued Registration Certificate, Airworthiness Certificate (AC) and Radio Station License to Air China and China Southern respectively.

The first C919 aircraft of Air China is an extended range version of aircraft in two-class layout with 158 seats, including 8 business class seats and 150 economy class seats. The first C919 aircraft of China Southern is a standard range version of aircraft in three-class layout with 164 seats, including 8 business class seats, 18 premium economy class seats and 138 economy class seats. The two aircraft are equipped with customized facilities and equipment such as the cabin seats, and personal charging interfaces are equipped throughout the cabin to provide passengers with a convenient and comfortable flight experience.

In order to guarantee the smooth introduction and subsequent smooth operation of the C919 aircraft, Air China and China Southern have worked closely with COMAC to fully promote various work such as aircraft model selection, production supervision, personnel training and operation preparation. COMAC has insisted on the principle of being customer centered and continuously improved its customer service and operation support system to make preparations for putting more C919 aircraft into route operation.

Up to now, a total of nine C919 aircraft have been delivered to customers. Among which, the C919 aircraft of China Eastern Airlines (CEA) have been operated smoothly for 15 months since its first commercial flight, flying in five scheduled routes and completing more than 3,600 commercial flights and 10,000 flight hours.

Quelle
COMAC Press Release 30 August 2024

CAE secures U.S. Navy Foreign Military Sales Contract to support MH-60R pilot and mission crew training for India

CAE today announced that CAE Defense & Security USA has been awarded a contract by the United States Navy under a U.S. Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program to provide two training devices and support of training MH-60R Seahawk helicopter pilots and mission crew to the Indian Navy.

The FMS contract valued at US$57M enables CAE to develop and deliver two training devices, an MH-60R Tactical Operational Flight Trainer (TOFT) and an Avionics Maintenance and Weapons Load Trainer (AMWLT), configured for the Republic of India Navy. The devices include hardware, courseware, network components, training, and documentation for the MH-60 platform. Device support will consist of upgrades with unique modifications, including an identification friend or foe (IFF) interrogator, IFF transponder, traffic collision avoidance system, anti-ship missile, and depth charge.

"We are honored to continue to support the U.S. Navy with the MH-60R TOFT and AMWLT devices," says Merrill Stoddard, Division President, CAE Defense & Security, USA. "CAE's unmatched experience as a platform independent training and simulation provider enables us to develop and enhance solutions that advance mission readiness."

The MH-60R TOFT provides a total aircrew mission training system connecting a full-motion operational flight trainer (OFT) for pilot training with a weapons tactics trainer (WTT) to train rear-crew sensor operators and airborne tactics officers. The MH-60R OFT and WTT can be operated as standalone training devices or as a networked training environment to maximize readiness by allowing the pilot, co-pilot, and rear crew to interact and interoperate to conduct full mission training against highly sophisticated interactive threats, as they would during an actual mission. The AMWLT supports training maintenance and military personnel in critical tasks to ensure they are well-equipped to execute their aircraft support mission.

CAE Defense & Security USA has been the prime contractor for designing and manufacturing the MH-60R TOFTs and MH-60R AMWLTs for the U.S. Navy for nearly two decades. Delivering our first device as Ready for Training in 2011, CAE has since produced devices through the U.S. Navy FMS program supporting Australia, Denmark, Brazil, and South Korea.

Quelle
CAE Press Release 04 September 2024

Strengthening Our Core: Reiser's New Business Line Land | Sea | Space

At Reiser, our customers are at the heart of everything we do. Refining our product segments and introducing the new Business Line has strengthened our ability to deliver tailored, future-proof, efficient, and cost-effective solutions. With over 35 years of experience as a trusted partner in aviation training—particularly for helicopter crews and maintenance personnel—Reiser is now expanding its expertise into civilian and military land systems and maritime training solutions. Our newly formed **Land | Sea | Space** Business Line exemplifies our commitment to developing customized training tools through a holistic approach, from data gathering to the final integrated system (software and hardware).

Reflecting this momentum, Reiser recently secured a contract with KNDS Deutschland GmbH, one of the most important land systems manufacturers, to supply 27 driver training consoles for Deutsche Bahn's locomotive operators. Reiser delivers these consoles on a tight timeline, featuring meticulously replicated driver workstations with all necessary controls and panels, integrated with the KNDS computer and software solutions. Consistent with all our product lines, Reiser is committed to providing long-term support through parts supply and repairs, ensuring a future-ready partnership for client and end customer.

Quelle
Reiser Press Release 04 September 2024

MTU Aero Engines AG platziert erfolgreich Unternehmensanleihe

The information contained in this press release is neither intended for publication nor for forwarding to or within the United States of America, Australia, Canada or Japan.

Die MTU Aero Engines AG hat eine Unternehmensanleihe erfolgreich am Kapitalmarkt platziert. Sie hat einen Nominalwert von 750 Millionen Euro und einen Kupon von 3,875 Prozent. Die Laufzeit der Anleihe beträgt sieben Jahre bis zum 18. September 2031. Der Erlös dient der vorzeitigen Refinanzierung der bestehenden Unternehmensanleihe der MTU sowie der allgemeinen Unternehmensfinanzierung.

Erworben wurde die Anleihe von mehr als 200 nationalen und internationalen Investoren. Peter Kameritsch, Vorstand Finanzen und IT der MTU Aero Engines AG: „Wir freuen uns über die erfolgreiche Platzierung der größten Unternehmensanleihe mit der längsten Laufzeit in der Geschichte der MTU Aero Engines. Mit einem Volumen von über drei Milliarden Euro war die Anleihe deutlich überzeichnet. Das unterstreicht das Vertrauen der Investoren in unsere strategische Ausrichtung sowie unser starkes Kreditprofil. Im Rahmen des Bookbuildings konnten wir den anfänglichen Preis deutlich einengen."

Die Einstufung der Anleihe wird von Moody's mit Baa3 und von Fitch mit BBB erwartet.

Die Anleihe wird im regulierten Handel der Luxemburger Wertpapierbörse notiert. Der Nominalbetrag wird in Stückelungen von jeweils 1.000 € aufgeteilt.

Arrangiert wurde die Transaktion von BNP Paribas, Commerzbank und UniCredit.

Die Unternehmensanleihe der MTU aus dem Jahr 2020 hat einen Nominalwert von 500 Millionen Euro und eine Laufzeit bis 1. Juli 2025.

Quelle
MTU Press Release 12 September 2024

First EagleEye Radar Comes Off the GA-ASI Production Line

New High-Performance Multi-Mode Radar Tailored for MDO

On July 31, 2024, the first EagleEye multi-mode radar came off the production line of General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI). The new radar is a high-performance system that delivers high-resolution, photographic-quality imagery that can be captured through clouds, rain, dust, smoke, and fog at multiple times the range of previous radars. EagleEye will be a "drop-in" radar enhancement for the U.S. Army's current Gray Eagle Extended Range Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and is part of the initial configuration for the new Gray Eagle 25M (GE 25M) UAS. The Army National Guard has ordered 12 GE 25Ms.

"The EagleEye radar has improved range and multi-mode performance, which is tailored to the deep sensing capability required for Multi-Domain Operations (MDO)," said Jeff Hettick, GA-ASI vice president of Agile Mission Systems. "We look forward to delivering the EagleEye to our U.S. Army customer in the near future."

Earlier this year, GA-ASI announced the development of a new Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) antenna and associated software for EagleEye, which will increase range and deliver significant mode enhancements. The radar's increased range and optimized multi-mode performance allow the aircraft to operate well outside the Weapons Effects Zone of most threat systems, adding a layer of survivability that supports the Stand-Off survivability with Stand-In effects of long-range sensors, which is a key component of the Gray Eagle 25M being developed for the U.S. Army.

EagleEye is a multi-mode radar that builds on years of pioneering expertise by GA-ASI. Using Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), EagleEye enables operators to look in detail through atmospheric conditions that might obscure a purely visual sensor. And for the first time on the Gray Eagle platform, EagleEye delivers radar-based Full-Motion Video (FMV) capability called "Video SAR," which enables live visual tracking of moving targets — even during heavy cloud cover. As part of the EagleEye development, GA-ASI has improved target detection range using real-time Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML) software that runs on board the aircraft.

The EagleEye radar performs Moving Target Indication (MTI), detects changes, builds stripmaps, and yields other precise insights to analysts, commanders, and operators using industry-standard data formats. With its Maritime Wide Area Search (MWAS) mode, EagleEye also provides a dedicated maritime MTI mode for tracking and targeting vessels. This further supports the MDO mission set of the U.S. Army, particularly in support of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM). The same mission is a focus for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East where there is an increased need for maritime reconnaissance, surveillance, and target acquisition, which is critical to achieve information dominance and overmatch.

Quelle
GA-ASI Press Release 23 August 2024

Cessna SkyCourier global status enhanced with type certification in the Philippines

Textron Aviation today announced that the Cessna SkyCourier twin utility turboprop has been awarded type certification by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), expanding the aircraft's ability to support operational activities in remote areas of southeast Asia. The first SkyCourier in the region – A 19-seat passenger variant – is planned to be delivered in the second half of 2025 to Leading Edge Air Services Corporation (LEASCOR), a wholly owned subsidiary of ACDI Multipurpose Cooperative in the Philippines.

The Cessna SkyCourier is designed and manufactured by Textron Aviation Inc., a Textron Inc. (NYSE:TXT) company.

With the ability to be operated by a single pilot, and also equipped with a generous payload capacity, the SkyCourier is an ideal solution for air freight, passenger and special mission needs. The aircraft is highly adaptable and can easily adjust configurations to effectively complete virtually any mission, supporting a significant return on investment. The aircraft also has capabilities to support a wide range of operational activities in remote areas.

ACDI Multipurpose Cooperative, the largest cooperative in the Philippines, serves members of the entire Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and other uniformed personnel. Members include active service personnel, retirees, reservists, civilian employees of the AFP and other uniformed personnel and dependents. LEASCOR was established in 2016 as the air chartering arm of the Cooperative.

"We are excited to connect underserved communities in the Philippines with the new 19-seat SkyCourier turboprop, which will complement our present fleet," said Major General Gilbert S. Llanto, ACDI MPC Chairman. "It will surely boost our business lines in tourism, agriculture and food, aviation, mobility and the construction industry across the archipelago."

Quelle
TEXTRON AVIATION Press Release 21 August 2024

Lockheed Martin and Tata Advanced Systems Announce Agreement to Expand C-130J Super Hercules Opportunities in India

Agreement Supports India's Medium Transport Aircraft Program and New Maintenance Facility

Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) and Tata Advanced Systems Limited have entered into a teaming agreement to expand upon the companies' business relationship through the C-130J Super Hercules tactical airlifter. This announcement marks a significant step in enhancing India's defence and aerospace capabilities while also deepening India-U.S. strategic ties.

This agreement provides a framework for collaboration on future potential business opportunities to include:

- Establishing a Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility in India to support the Indian Air Force's (IAF) existing fleet of 12 C-130Js as well as other global Super Hercules fleets;
- Expanding C-130J manufacturing and assembly in India to produce aircraft for the IAF's Medium Transport Aircraft (MTA) program, subject to U.S. and Indian government approvals.

Lockheed Martin will continue to build C-130Js for the U.S. government and other global operators at the existing Super Hercules production facility in Marietta, Georgia, USA. Lockheed Martin will establish additional production and assembly capacity in India if awarded the MTA contract.

"Collaborating with Lockheed Martin on the C-130J platform proposition for IAF's MTA project is a milestone for Tata Advanced Systems," said Sukaran Singh, chief executive officer and managing director of Tata Advanced Systems. "The current announcement is also significant as it marks the entry of Tata Advanced Systems into the defence MRO space in India for large aircraft platforms. This also helps towards a deeper relationship between the two companies, adding to the aerostructure work by Tata Advanced Systems for Lockheed Martin platforms."

"The C-130J is known as the world's workhorse, not just for its large global presence, but also for its international supply chain partners including the single source provider of empennages — Tata Lockheed Martin Aerostructures Limited in Hyderabad," said Rod McLean, vice president and general manager of the Air Mobility and Maritime Missions line of business at Lockheed Martin. "This teaming agreement between Lockheed Martin and Tata Advanced Systems further demonstrates Lockheed Martin's commitment to a self-reliant India and the degree of confidence that exists in our relationships with our partners in India and the Indian industry at large."

The IAF is actively seeking to acquire up to 80 medium transport aircraft and issued a request for information (RFI) last year. Lockheed Martin responded to the RFI as the C-130J-30 Super Hercules is ideally suited to meet the requirements.

Lockheed Martin and Tata Advanced Systems Limited have a long-standing partnership through the Tata Lockheed Martin Aerostructures Ltd., (TLMAL) joint venture. Established in 2010, TLMAL exemplifies the government of India's ″Make in India″ objectives and has the distinction of being the single global source of C-130J empennage assemblies included on all new Super Hercules aircraft produced in the United States. To date, TLMAL has manufactured more than 220 C-130J empennages.

Quelle
Lockheed Martin Press Release 10 September 2024

Safran to acquire Component Repair Technologies in order to expand its MRO network

Safran Aircraft Engines announced today the contemplated acquisition of the American company CRT (Component Repair Technologies), a world leader in the repair of aircraft engine parts, based in Mentor, Ohio. By adding CRT, Safran Aircraft Engines will strengthen its maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) capabilities in the Americas. CRT, which has

over 450 employees, is specialized in the repair of large parts (cases, rotating parts) for the CFM56, LEAP and large turbofan engines.

“This contemplated acquisition clearly reflects our plans to ramp-up our global MRO network, and we are delighted to be able to rely on the proven expertise of CRT,” said **Jean-Paul Alary, CEO of Safran Aircraft Engines**. “Our strategy includes major investments at all our current facilities, plus the construction of new facilities. With this ambitious ramp-up, Safran Aircraft Engines will proactively support the rapidly growing global fleet of LEAP-powered airplanes.”

CRT will perform repair activities in the framework of Safran Aircraft Engines’ shop visits provided to airlines through CFM Services agreements, as well as for other OEM and third-party companies in the MRO market. This new facility will join the five existing repair facilities in the Safran Aircraft Engines network: Châtellerault (France), Ceramic Coating Center (France), Airfoils Advanced Solutions (France), PTI (Florida, United States), Safran Aircraft Engine Services Americas (Querétaro, Mexico). CRT’s operations are fully in line with the strong development of Safran Aircraft Engines’ engine MRO capabilities in the Americas, as shown by the recent announcement of a new maintenance facility for LEAP engines to be built in Querétaro, Mexico. This acquisition will help us optimize our industrial organization against the backdrop of strong growth in LEAP support services, while significantly reducing our carbon footprint.

“As a long-standing partner to Safran Aircraft Engines, CRT has proven its ability to develop innovative new repair processes,” noted **Nicolas Potier, Vice President, Support, Services & MRO at Safran Aircraft Engines**. “Adding their capabilities to our network provides a major asset to support our customers’ operations worldwide. It also reflects our industrial strategy of providing a world-class MRO source on each continent.”

The LEAP engine is a huge commercial success, with more than 7,500 already delivered, logging over 50 million flight-hours, and another 10,600 on order. This new-generation turbofan is deployed by nearly 170 operators worldwide. It reduces CO_2 emissions by 15% to 20% in relation to previous generation engines, while also significantly reducing noise.

The completion of this proposed acquisition remains subject to obtaining the usual regulatory approvals. The transaction is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

Quelle
SAFRAN Press Release 10 September 2024