
Airbus Helicopters' new EC145 T2 is certified: Deliveries of mission-ready rotorcraft to begin in the third quarter

Donauwörth, Germany, 17 April, 2014 – The newest member of Airbus Helicopters' proven EC145 rotorcraft family – the EC145 T2 – has been certified, clearing the way for customer deliveries beginning in the third quarter of this year.

Issued by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the certification covers the full range of capabilities, including single-pilot and instrument flight rules (IFR) and single engine operations (Cat.AVTOL), along with night vision goggle capability.

"The EC145 T2 is setting new standards in its class," said Airbus Helicopters CEO Guillaume Faury. "This new model features a design to meet and exceed the latest challenging requirements of our customers for mission capability. Our operators will benefit from an unrivalled operational advantage thanks to the perfect combination of airframe, equipment and performance". This comes along with the highest level of flight safety by our new Helionix® avionics suite".

Approximately 20 EC145 T2 currently are in series production, providing a solid basis for the initial deliveries and ramp-up in production rate. To date, Airbus Helicopters has received orders and options for more than 100 EC145 T2s, along with 15 of the military EC645 T2 variant for the German Army.

Enhancements incorporated in the T2 version of the 4-metric-ton category EC145 include new Arriel 2E engines and the company's signature Fenestron® shrouded tail rotor, along with upgraded main and new tail rotor gear boxes, and an advanced cockpit that uses Airbus Helicopter's innovative Helionix digital avionics suite with 4-axis autopilot.

The new dual FADEC engines – combined with an upgraded main gear box – guarantee an unprecedented level of one-engine inoperative (OEI) performance, along with performance in hover, which are of utmost importance in emergency medical services (EMS) operations and for flight safety in general.

By applying Fenestron technology to the EC145 T2, Airbus Helicopters brings the tail rotor's benefits in terms of improved flight and ground safety, enhanced anti-torque control efficiency, reduced power demand in forward flight, lower noise and vibration levels. For its use on the EC145 T2, the Fenestron has a new-design tail gearbox with lower maintenance costs, and incorporates a duplex tail rotor actuator and dual hydraulic circuits. This is installed in a new, damage-tolerant all-composite tail boom.

The EC145 T2's designed-in modularity and its large unobstructed cabin with flat floor contribute to the helicopter's flexibility for a full range of applications. The full range of optional equipment is being offered initially for utility, corporate and emergency medical services missions, to be followed soon by configurations for offshore and police duties.

High levels of mission capability and flexibility are ensured with the Helionix avionics, which provides undisputed superiority of in-flight envelope protection, pilot assistance and situational awareness for unprecedented flight safety levels. Meeting the latest international avionics standards, the Helionix avionics suite incorporates the most innovative alerting and self-monitoring system.

More information on the EC145 T2 is available on its website:
<http://www.airbushelicopters.com/EC145T2>

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 over 40% 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 subsidiaries 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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