



Press Release

EADS North America passes the halfway mark in deliveries of the U.S. Army UH-72A Lakota helicopter

ARLINGTON, Va., Aug. 24, 2011 – EADS North America has achieved another milestone on the UH-72A Lakota Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) program as the company has delivered more than half of the planned 345 Lakotas to the U.S. Army.

The UH-72A Lakota, built by the company's American Eurocopter business unit, is one of the U.S. Army's most successful acquisition programs and is repeatedly noted by DoD officials for its on-time and on-budget deliveries.

"Reaching the midway point in deliveries to the Army with an unblemished record of on-time deliveries is an excellent example of our strong performance on the Lakota program," said EADS North American CEO Sean O'Keefe. "This program clearly demonstrates the company's ability to successfully execute large programs, in-source manufacturing to the U.S. and create high-value American jobs, while simultaneously delivering on our on-time and on-cost commitment to our Army and Navy customers."

The UH-72A is based on the best-selling EC145 multi-role helicopter and was developed by EADS' Eurocopter division. As part of EADS North America's commitment to the U.S. Army, the company's American Eurocopter business unit created a dedicated assembly line for UH-72As in Mississippi, and successfully completed the on-time in-sourcing of its full production activity from Germany in 2010 – with sustained output reaching 53 rotary-wing aircraft annually at the state-of-the-art facility.

Overall there have been 180 aircraft delivered to the DoD. The steady production and delivery represents the rapid success in establishing a world-class production facility, recruiting and training the technical professionals who build the aircraft and the suppliers in the U.S. and overseas.

UH-72A Lakota helicopters are operating from 31 basing locations in the continental U.S., Puerto Rico, Germany and the Pacific Ocean's Kwajalein Atoll following the establishment of 10 new fielding sites in 2010. The U.S. Army has ordered 219 UH-72As to date, with the total acquisition of 345 helicopters sustaining production through 2015. Five LUH aircraft are used by the Navy Test Pilot School for their rotary wing test pilot training.

The U.S. Army is using its Lakotas in multiple configurations for medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) missions, search and rescue operations, border patrols along the U.S./Mexico border, VIP transport, general aviation support and in combat flight training at

the service's Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) in Hohenfels, Germany, the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Ft. Polk, La., and soon at the National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, Calif. EADS North America and American Eurocopter engineers continue to integrate additional mission equipment packages (MEPs) on the UH-72A, achieving FAA certification for the Combat Training Center (CTC) MEP in 2010. Efforts continue on additional MEP integration, for a comprehensive package for the Army National Guard's Security and Support (S&S) Battalion missions.

The training and logistics for the LUH program is also on track. Pilots and maintenance professionals of U.S. Army have completed more than 575 pilot and 375 maintenance personnel completing their classes at American Eurocopter's headquarters facility in Grand Prairie, Texas. The LUH fleet has accumulated more than 67,500 hours to date.

EADS North America provides the Lakota aircraft as part of the overall program to the DoD. The entire scope of the program includes the flight and maintainer training, full and hybrid contractor logistics support to the Army and Army National Guard, modifications and retrofit of mission equipment packages onto existing aircraft. The helicopter, associated modifications, training, and logistics support comply with FAA requirements and guidelines.

The UH-72A is a Defense Acquisition Category (ACAT) I major defense acquisition program for the U.S. Defense Department. Deliveries of the aircraft to National Guard units allow aging OH-58 and UH-1 rotary-wing aircraft to be retired, while UH-72As assigned to the active component of the U.S. Army free up UH-60 Black Hawks for assignment to combat missions.

About American Eurocopter

American Eurocopter is a helicopter manufacturer that produces, markets, sells and supports the broadest range of civil and para-public helicopters offered by any manufacturer in the United States. The company is a subsidiary of EADS North America Holdings, the North American operations of EADS, a global leader in aerospace, defense and related services, and is an affiliate of Eurocopter, the largest helicopter manufacturer in the world. American Eurocopter's product line represents the most cost-effective, technologically-advanced helicopters, ranging from light single to heavy twin, serving all markets and missions. Company headquarters and main facilities are located in Grand Prairie, Texas, with a large manufacturing and production facility in Columbus, Miss., that produces the UH-72A for the U.S. Army's Light Utility Helicopter program.

About EADS North America

EADS North America is the North American operation of EADS, a global leader in aerospace, defense and related services. As a leader in all sectors of defense and homeland security, EADS North America and its parent company, EADS, contribute over \$11 billion to the U.S. economy annually and support more than 200,000 American jobs through its network of suppliers and services. Operating in 17 states, EADS North America offers a broad array of advanced solutions to its customers in the commercial, homeland security, aerospace and defense markets.

About EADS

EADS is a global leader in aerospace, defense and related services. In 2010, the Group - comprising Airbus, Astrium, Cassidian and Eurocopter - generated revenues of € 45.8 billion and employed a workforce of nearly 122,000.

Contact

James Darcy
james.darcy@eads-na.com

Office 1-703-236-3325

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