

Eurocopter introduces its EC130 T2 and EC145 T2 helicopters to the UK with demonstration flights for private, utility, police and emergency service operators

Oxford, England, September 19, 2013

A series of United Kingdom demonstrations with the EC130 T2 and EC145 T2 are providing first-hand experience with these enhanced versions of Eurocopter's helicopter family for some 100 invitees taking part in flights conducted this week.

The evaluations are being performed from Britain's civil helicopter hub in Oxford and at Denham Aerodrome close to London, providing flight opportunities for private and utility operators, law enforcement agencies, as well as emergency medical service providers.

"As a helicopter industry leader, Eurocopter constantly is updating and evolving its product line, as represented by the EC130 T2 and EC145 T2," said Markus Steinke, the Managing Director of Eurocopter UK. "Bringing these rotorcraft to the UK enables a broad section of the user community to fully appreciate their latest technology for enhanced mission capability and flexibility."

Flights performed today for civil, private and utility operators were performed with the EC130 T2 at Denham Aerodrome, while parallel demonstrations involving the EC145 T2 at Oxford brought together personnel from law enforcement, emergency medical services and national security agencies.

The activity will conclude tomorrow with private customers, who will have access to the EC130 T2 and EC145 T2 at Oxford.

Eurocopter's EC130 T2 is the latest member of its best-selling lightweight single-engine Ecureuil product line, and features enhanced comfort, improved operational performance and increased versatility.

While retaining the EC130's existing external lines, approximately 70 percent of the EC130 T2's airframe structure has been modified, with new features including use of a more powerful Arriel 2D turboshaft engine and upgraded main gearbox; the incorporation of an active vibration control system; improved air ventilation, distribution and demisting systems; a cabin interior structure redesign with a full flat floor; a cockpit update for enhanced man-machine interface; new energy-absorbing seats that improve weight and balance for passenger loading; integration of a crashworthy fuel tank; and increased maintenance accessibility for electrical and air conditioning systems.

In the twin-engine medium helicopter segment, Eurocopter's EC145 T2 is an evolved version of the popular twin-engine EC145, incorporating new Arriel 2E engines; the company's Fenestron shrouded tail rotor; upgraded main and tail rotor gear boxes; as well as an innovative new digital avionics suite with 4-axis autopilot.



Advantages of the Fenestron include improved flight and ground safety, along with enhanced anti-torque control efficiency, reduced power demand in forward flight, lower noise and vibration levels. On the EC145 T2, the Fenestron has a new-design tail gear box with lower maintenance costs, and incorporates a duplex tail rotor actuator and dual hydraulic circuits. It is installed in a new, damage-tolerant design all-composite tail boom.

About Eurocopter UK Ltd.

Eurocopter UK Ltd, Britain's civil helicopter hub, and its predecessors have been present and highly active in the United Kingdom for over 30 years, dominating the civil rotary-wing sector. Its contribution to the aerospace sector of the national economy includes the development of police aviation leading to a 75% market share, air ambulances (65% share), and well over 50% of the offshore oil and gas market. Eurocopter UK Ltd is headquartered in Oxford, with additional bases in Dublin (Ireland), Belfast (Northern Ireland), Hawarden (Wales) and Aberdeen (Scotland) and provides the full range of products and services for the rotary-wing sector, including prime contractor of the Royal Air Force Puma Mk2 program. Some 450 Eurocopter helicopters form the biggest part of the UK's helicopter fleet and the backbone of vital national infrastructure such as 100 helicopters serving the UK Ministry of Defence for transport, training and high end operational missions. Eurocopter enjoys a reputation for innovation, high quality and a strong customer service ethos. To date, Eurocopter UK Ltd has exported helicopter high-tech solutions to 23 nations on all continents. The Eurocopter group employs more than 1,600 people across the British Isles.

About Eurocopter (Website: www.eurocopter.com)

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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