



## Press Release

### **EADS North America conducts first flight of its Armed Aerial Scout 72X Technical Demonstration Aircraft**

**ARLINGTON, Va. and GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas, Dec. 8, 2010** – EADS North America today announced that it has flown the second of three company-funded Armed Aerial Scout 72X Technical Demonstration Aircraft (TDA).

The flight took place yesterday at the company's American Eurocopter facility in Grand Prairie, Texas and lasted 40 minutes. The objective of this flight was to demonstrate integrated targeting sensor, manned/unmanned teaming (MUM-T) and communications and navigation capabilities. Subsequent test flights will demonstrate additional capabilities required to meet the U.S. Army's current Armed Aerial Scout mission requirements.

The EADS North America-led industry team, comprised of Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT), Eurocopter and American Eurocopter, is developing three AAS-72X aircraft to demonstrate the total capability of the aircraft with a fully-integrated Mission Equipment Package (MEP).

"This is a significant milestone for our industry team as we further demonstrate the capabilities of our aircraft and its ability to meet the Army's warfighting requirement," said Sean O'Keefe, CEO of EADS North America. "We're pleased with our progress to date and remain fully committed to developing and demonstrating a solution for the Armed Aerial Scout mission."



EADS North America's Armed Aerial Scout 72X Technical Demonstration Aircraft #2, in flight-test livery, stands ready for its first flight at the company's American Eurocopter facility in Grand Prairie, Texas Dec. 7, 2010. The objective of the 40-minute flight was to demonstrate integrated targeting sensor, manned/unmanned teaming (MUM-T) and communications and navigation capabilities. EADS North America photo.

The first TDA aircraft has been in use to demonstrate anticipated AAS-72X requirements for the Army's Armed Aerial Scout mission. This includes a July 2009 series of successful high/hot test flights that achieved all test objectives including hover-out-of-ground-effect and flight endurance with a 2,300-pound simulated MEP, and a transportability demonstration of five helicopters on a C-17 transport aircraft.

Since that time other advancements on the program include the development of the MEP Systems Integration Laboratory at Lockheed Martin's Orlando, Fla. facility.

"Lockheed Martin's considerable progress in maturing the state-of-the-art AAS MEP demonstrates our commitment to providing a best-value, superior solution to meet the warfighters' armed scout need," said Bob Gunning, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control vice president of Fire Control programs. "We are leveraging our expertise from other combat-proven rotary- and fixed-wing programs to develop the lowest risk MEP. This first flight marks a significant achievement on our path towards flying a production prototype."

As a highly capable helicopter for the Armed Aerial Scout mission, the AAS-72X combines twin-engine safety and the high and hot operating performance critical to the Army's armed scout mission. The AAS-72X is derived from the same family of aircraft as the UH-72A Lakota Light Utility Helicopter, offering a low-risk evolution of the U.S. Army's newest rotary-wing aircraft, which is widely considered one of the most successful acquisition programs in the service's history.

"Today's event proves our commitment to this project in terms of our financial investment and emphasizes our enhanced engineering capability to serve our U.S. Army customer. This is yet another example of delivering on our promise" said Marc Paganini, President and CEO American Eurocopter

Production of the AAS-72X would take place at the Columbus, Miss. helicopter center of excellence operated by American Eurocopter, an EADS North America operating unit, where the UH-72A currently is assembled for the U.S. Army. EADS North America has delivered 146 UH-72As on time and within budget, including five to the U.S. Navy.

For additional information about EADS North America's AAS-72X, visit the website at: [www.AAS-72X.com](http://www.AAS-72X.com).

**About Lockheed Martin**

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin is a global security company that employs about 133,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. The Corporation's 2009 sales from continuing operations were \$44.0 billion.

**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 2009, the Group - comprising Airbus, Astrium, Cassidian and Eurocopter – generated revenues of € 42.8 billion and employed a workforce of more than 119,000.

**Contact**

Tim Paynter  
tim.paynter@eads-na.com

Office 1-703-236-3326  
Mobile 1-571-296-5319

[www.eadsnorthamerica.com](http://www.eadsnorthamerica.com)

###