

Heli-Expo 2015

Airbus Helicopters announces full-version release of its H225 Flight Crew Operating Manual

- Completes initial version published in December 2014
- Provides best practices and recommendations for H225s in oil and gas missions
- Airbus Helicopters is the first manufacturer in the rotorcraft industry to issue an FCOM

Orlando, Florida, 5 March 2015 – Airbus Helicopters has expanded on its initial Flight Crew Operating Manual (FCOM) for H225 (formerly EC225) aircraft in oil and gas missions – the first such source document produced by a rotorcraft manufacturer – and has announced the release of a complete version, now extended to include emergency procedures.

Airbus Helicopters worked closely on the document with a group of Oil & Gas operators, whose operational inputs and feedback have been continuously taken into account to create the most comprehensive FCOM possible.

“HeliOffshore commends Airbus for their leadership in delivering the first Flight Crew Operations Manual for offshore helicopters,” said Gretchen Haskins, the CEO of HeliOffshore. “This work will help to optimise global operating procedures and can be used to improve training for our crews. Working in partnership, we can deliver significant safety benefits for the frontline.”

This latest version of the H225 FCOM now includes aircraft manufacturer guidance for enhanced operational safety during both routine and abnormal situations, focusing on procedures for operating state-of-the-art glass cockpits, automated systems, and guidance on work-share among pilots – also known as Crew Resource Management (CRM).

“The FCOM not only reinforces our company’s commitment to safety as our number one priority, but it also serves as an important information source allowing for standardized operations in the offshore sector, which contributes to increasing safety throughout the industry,” said Gilles Bruniaux, Airbus Helicopters Vice President of Aviation Safety. “We are proud to be the first in the rotorcraft industry to offer such a resource to our customers, and this comprehensive version now provides all the necessary information to help them best prepare their own Standard Operating Procedures.”

The H225 FCOM is made available to customers through the company’s e-TechPub online customer portal, and is being offered free of charge this year. Additional manuals are planned for other Airbus Helicopters rotorcraft deployed in oil and gas missions – including the new H175, now in service in the North Sea.

About Airbus Helicopters

Airbus Helicopters 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 44 percent 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 more than 150 countries. Airbus Helicopters' international presence is marked by its 29 customer centers and participations 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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