

DRF Luftrettung signs a power-by-the-hour service agreement for its large Eurocopter helicopter fleet

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Germany's DRF Luftrettung today signed a power-by-the-hour service agreement with Eurocopter, ensuring optimized technical support with fixed maintenance costs and minimized downtime for this air rescue organization's large helicopter fleet.

DRF Luftrettung currently operates 45 Eurocopter helicopters for emergency medical services, composed of the EC145, EC135 and BK117 versions. In 2011, the company agreed to purchase 25 enhanced EC145 T2s, which will provide a new-generation successor for its BK117s.

"We signed this agreement to ensure optimal technical support and rapid response time for our fleet of rescue helicopters," said Steffen Lutz, CEO of DRF Luftrettung.

The power-by-the-hour service agreement signed today at the Heli-Expo 2012 exhibition covers a 10-year period and represents a business volume of approximately 80 million euros.

"Ensuring the best customer service is a top priority at Eurocopter, and we will ensure all of our resources are available in fulfilling the new power-by-the-hour agreement with DRF Luftrettung," said Wolfgang Schoder, Eurocopter Executive Vice President Programs.

About Eurocopter

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 20,000 people. In 2011, Eurocopter confirmed its position as the world's number one helicopter manufacturer with a turnover of 5.4 billion Euros, orders for 457 new helicopters and a 43 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 some 2,900 customers. There are currently more than 11,300 Eurocopter helicopters in service in 149 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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