

All Nippon Helicopter acquires two Eurocopter AS365 N3+ Dauphin rotorcraft for electronic newsgathering missions with Japanese broadcaster NHK

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Eurocopter Japan has received an order for two new AS365 N3+ Dauphins from All Nippon Helicopter (ANH) to replace two rotary-wing aircraft from its existing fleet for use in electronic newsgathering missions on behalf of Japanese national broadcaster, NHK.

ANH, which is an operator for NHK in news missions, owns a fleet of 12 Eurocopter helicopters, including six AS365 N2s and six EC135 T2s. The two new AS365 N3+ will be delivered in 2013 and 2014 respectively, with high-definition cameras to be installed by Eurocopter Japan T&E – a business unit of Eurocopter Japan with design and engineering capability.

The electronic newsgathering market in Japan is 10 times bigger than Europe. In fact, Japanese broadcasting companies frequently purchase their own helicopters – a phenomenon that is observed significantly more in Japan than in other developed markets. As a result, new technologies are constantly being developed locally to enhance the broadcast quality of aerial footage. For instance, the equipment for electronic newsgathering helicopters has been significantly improved in Japan in response to the introduction of digital satellite broadcasting in 2000 and digital terrestrial broadcasting in 2003.

Eurocopter is the leading provider of electronic newsgathering helicopters in Japan, with 75 percent of the country's 96-aircraft fleet. The cost-efficiency, great capability and high availability of Eurocopter helicopters and their associated electronic newsgathering technology and equipment have contributed to the high demand and popularity of the company's products.

“Our light and medium twin-engine helicopters such as the Dauphin AS365 and EC135 are especially popular for use in Japanese electronic newsgathering missions,” stated Stephane Ginoux, President & CEO of Eurocopter Japan. “We are delighted that All Nippon Helicopter has once again placed their confidence in us and our products and services. We are committed to providing customers with top-notch after-sales support, as well as developing new technologies for the advancement of aerial filming and broadcasting in Japan.”

The AS365 N3+ is an upgraded version of the AS365 N3 – an ideal aircraft for electronic newsgathering missions due to its low vibration level, long range and high speed. It is equipped with enhanced avionics and a unique four-axis autopilot system that helps to ease the pilot's workload.

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.

www.eurocopter.com

About Eurocopter Japan

Eurocopter Japan Co.,Ltd was established in April 2009 as a subsidiary of Eurocopter (90%) and Itochu Corporation (10%). In July 2009, Eurocopter Japan established Eurocopter Japan T&E. Co.,Ltd, a joint venture with ANAM. After these two acquisitions, Eurocopter became the first foreign affiliated company in this field to become a full fledged industrial player in Japan. With 55% market share in the civil and parapublic sectors, a fleet of 330 helicopters and 50 years of presence in Japan, Eurocopter Japan will continue to contribute to Japanese customers and the society by improving safety, usability and the cost efficiency of the air by providing excellent products and consummate services.

www.eurocopter.co.jp

For more information, please contact:

Priscilla Yip

Tel: +65 6592 7217

Mob: +65 9660 7040

Priscilla.yip@eurocoptersea.com.sg

