

# Police Aviation News

©Police Aviation Research

Number 140 December 2007

IPAR

## Dutch Police Sign up to EC135P2



## Law Enforcement Aviation Coalition

*Illinois low cost air support - Letters Page*

PAN – [POLICE AVIATION NEWS](#) is published monthly by  
INTERNATIONAL POLICE AVIATION RESEARCH  
7 Windmill Close, Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3BQ UK  
**Main:** +44 1992 714162 **Cell:** +44 7778 296650 **Skype:** Bryn.Elliott  
Bryn Elliott **E-mail:** [editor@policeaviationnews.com](mailto:editor@policeaviationnews.com)

Bob Crowe  
Digital Downlink  
Eurocopter UK  
Specialist Design  
L3 Wescam  
Innovative Downlink Solutions  
Power in a box  
Imaging Surveillance Technology  
Showing the way  
Turning the blades  
Airborne Law Enforcement Association  
European Law Enforcement Association  
Sindacato Personale Aeronavigante Della Polizia

[www.bobcroweaircraft.com](http://www.bobcroweaircraft.com)  
[www.bms-inc.com](http://www.bms-inc.com)  
[www.eurocopter.co.uk](http://www.eurocopter.co.uk)  
[www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk](http://www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk)  
[www.wescam.com](http://www.wescam.com)  
[www.mrcsecurity.com](http://www.mrcsecurity.com)  
[www.powervamp.com](http://www.powervamp.com)  
[www.rdds.co.uk](http://www.rdds.co.uk)  
[www.skyforceobserver.com](http://www.skyforceobserver.com)  
[www.turbomeca.com](http://www.turbomeca.com)  
[www.alea.org](http://www.alea.org)  
[www.pacenet.info](http://www.pacenet.info)  
[www.uppolizia.it](http://www.uppolizia.it)

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

### EUROPE

Malta became one of nine countries approved as new Schengen members last month. The European Union's Justice and Home Affairs Council approved membership of Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia and Malta.

This group joins other Schengen countries of Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Monaco, Holland, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Austria, Greece, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The UK and Ireland are the only dissenters from the mainly EU grouping. The practicalities of free movement within an area without internal border controls were first set out by the Schengen Agreement in 1985 and the subsequent Schengen Convention in 1995 that abolished controls on internal borders between the signatory countries.

Switzerland signed an association agreement with the EU, which has not entered into force yet. It is expected to become a full Schengen member, together with Liechtenstein, at the end of 2008. In 2009, Cyprus may fully join Schengen, whereas Bulgaria and Romania are not expected to fully participate before 2011. [Malta Independent/EU]

### GERMANY

**NORTH-RHINE WESTFALIA:** The police air support squadron of North-Rhine Westfalia is the first unit in continental Europe to be operational with a FLIR Systems Star SAFIRE HD imaging system. By end of November three BK 117 aircraft had been modified to carry the new fully digital high-definition system, with two more BK117 due to be completed by mid of December. This is also the time frame when the unit will take delivery of their second Star HD system, enabling them to provide 24/7 air support from both their operating bases in Dusseldorf and Dortmund with one of the most modern day/night imaging systems on the market.



The upgrade programme is being performed and managed by prime contractor ESG of Germany [www.esg.de](http://www.esg.de), a leading system supplier and integrator of high-tech police role equipment. Team partners selected by ESG for the helicopter installations are Mann Aviation Group in the UK and ADAC Luftfahrt Technik. The Star HD's advanced GEO capabilities and the close integration of those with the aircraft's moving map system and satellite up- and microwave downlinks result in a leap in situational awareness for both the onboard mission crew and police ground control centres. [ESG]

## NETHERLANDS

As this edition went to press Rotorhub was reporting a local Dutch website [Luchtvaartnieuws] reporting that the KLPD [Dutch Police] have signed a contract to purchase six Eurocopter EC135P2 helicopters from Eurocopter.

When confirmed this will mark the end of a long process to replace an existing fleet of Bo105 helicopters and BN2 fixed wing aircraft. This process has included an abortive attempt to acquire eight MD Explorers. The Explorers were unable to meet performance criterion at the core of the contract. Deliveries will take place in 2009.

The 'high weight' section of the contract that MD were unable to meet in the required time remains unresolved. It can be expected that an additional pair of helicopters will be acquired to meet this. It is widely predicted that the additional type will be from AgustaWestland, perhaps the AW139. This area of the requirement related to the surveillance role formerly operated by the BN2 aircraft disposed of without replacement in 2003.

## ITALY

**POLICE:** In the wake of the fatal police AB206 crash in which two veteran pilots, Commander Liguori and Chief Inspector Falivene died in a very old helicopter, the Italian newspaper "Il Giornale" has been investigating law enforcement aviation in the Mediterranean country.

It has now become evident to the newspaper that the large fleet of police helicopters serving Italy is old – very old. The most recent acquisition was in 1997, others in the fleet date back to 1972.

Last August Italian Interior Minister Giuliano Amato was talking about police machines being considered old after being in service for 5-6 years. And yet all the police fleet far exceeds that datum. [Rotorhub/Il Giornale]

*Ed: Liguori was scheduled to speak at the Police Aviation Conference in The Hague last month, his death in the crash led to a substitute being sent.*

*This 'old fleet' issue is not a new development but it is interesting to note that an Italian newspaper has woken up to the situation. Whether it sets its new find aside and forgets it is more pertinent.*

*Italy is well endowed with emergency services helicopters of which the police fleet is but a part. Other services largely overcome fleet renewal difficulties but all still operate old airframes. There are newer aircraft – including a recently delivered Avanti fixed-wing – but on the whole the police fleet is far older than it ought to be on the basis of that official Italian figure.*

*It is not all about money – although the sheer number of replacements needed is eye watering – there remains the small matter of the EU 'free market' to circumvent. Italian industry is creating a specialist 'new' helicopter that some see as a way to remove the need to go out to tender to replace all the state aircraft. Most current Italian emergency services aircraft have military identities which helps [the need to go out to tender is removed for state aircraft] but most EU police aircraft are now on the civil register and Italy is thus standing out as being unusual in that respect. The 'new' helicopter is based on the home grown A109 and grumbles can be expected to continue from other manufacturers in the EU.*



## LATVIA

**BORDER GUARD:** The two AW109 Power helicopters ordered by Ministry of the Interior of Latvia for State Border Guard were declared operationally ready for service during a ceremony held in Ludza on October 26. The occasion celebrated the fifth Anniversary of the State Border Guard Aviation Service and the opening of new facilities at the Ludza Base.

Minister of Interior of Latvia Mr. Ivars Godmanis, Chief of State Border Guard of Latvia General Gunars Dabolins and delegations from Finnish, Estonian, Lithuanian, Polish, German, Slovenian, Russian and Belarusian Border Guard services attended the event.

The Power helicopters will be used by the State Border Guard Aviation Service for patrolling the eastern European border and other law enforcement missions. Procurement of the helicopters was financed by the EU using Schengen Facility programme funds. The Border Guard helicopters will be equipped with latest generation FLIR, radar, dedicated mission console, rescue hoist, search light and a Night Vision Goggles compatible cockpit.

On August 17, 2001 it was announced that the Latvian border guards had plans to buy up to six helicopters over two years as part of Latvia's attempts at improving its eastern border and to comply with the demands of being an external border of the European Union. The timeline is somewhat extended on those ideals

In 2004 the Latvian Border Guard visited the police air unit in Austria and in the wake of that it was stated that they planned to buy four new helicopters (three single-engine and one twin) operated by 14 helicopter pilots and 6 maintenance men centred on Ludza.

From 2005 Baltijas Helikopters, the local Bell representative, were training up police and EMS operations using an MD500E and a Bell 206. In June 2006 AgustaWestland announced that the order for the A109 Power's was signed. [AW/IPAR]

## RUSSIA

**BORDER GUARD:** At last months Interpolitex 2007 security technology exhibition in Moscow details of an unmanned aerial vehicle, fast patrol boats and plans for the use of technical equipment by Russia's border guards were given in local media.

At the show the chief of the technical development service in the Border Guard Service spoke about measures to provide automated technical surveillance along the main sections of the border, including the use of UAV's.

Test launches of border surveillance UAV's began back in 2005 along Russia's North Caucasus border and that recommendations are now being drawn up on their use along the main sections of the state border. The current operational craft weigh around 100 kg, have a range of up to 40 km and can transmit video in real time. They continue to look at alternative systems being offered by local industry. [BBC/Interfax-AVN]

## SAUDI ARABIA

**INTERIOR MINISTRY:** Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Interior (MOI) and Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. have signed contracts for sixteen S-92, fifteen S-76 and nine Schweizer 434 helicopters. The procurement represents a major expansion and modernisation of the MOI helicopter fleet.

**Higher Definition.**  
Leading-edge 1080p HD

**MX-15 True HD**

**1080p**

**720p**

**Standard NTSC**

**Comparison of MX-15 True HD Output Formats**

**L3 communications WESCAM**

[www.wescam.com](http://www.wescam.com)  
1.800.668.4355

This is a fast-track procurement with deliveries beginning as early as March 2008. To accommodate that, it includes a provision for operations, maintenance, logistics and training, which will allow for the expeditious entry of the aircraft into service. This will help bring the unit into full service rapidly and, in turn, enhance its ability to respond to critical missions in the Kingdom, including search and rescue (SAR), fire fighting, medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) and emergency medical service (EMS) patient transfer missions, in addition to security and traffic surveillance missions. These aircraft can be quickly configured for each mission.

The Saudi MOI began discussions with various helicopter manufacturers and issued requests for proposals to six major helicopter manufacturers to compete for the Saudi MOI helicopter programme requirements in the first quarter of 2006. The MOI accepted proposals in June 2006, which prompted technical discussions and negotiations with the different companies. On December 4, 2006, the MOI issued Sikorsky a letter of intent to purchase the Sikorsky solution. [Sikorsky]

## SWEDEN



Last month the Swedish police put the nation's prison systems on the alert after four of their EC135 police helicopters operating near the west coast city of Gothenburg were shot at during the night. The damaged aircraft were temporarily withdrawn from service. They expressed fears that a prison break may be being planned. [Sveriges Radio]

# COOLSPPOOL

**The latest 28.5 volt GPU range**  
**Faster, cooler starts. Perfect for shaft or free turbines. Essential for FADEC aircraft.**

**NEW Mini 17 A/Hr portable GPU.**  
**Built-in charger, digital voltmeter, protective padded jacket.**

**Massive performance, true portability, amazingly low weight.**

**Models from Mini 17 A/Hr to 260 A/Hr Ramp Cart**

**CALL NOW!**

**+44 (0)1934 643000**

**email: [info@powervamp.com](mailto:info@powervamp.com)**



**POWERVAMP™**

**Powervamp Ltd, Weston-Super-Mare, England**

**[www.powervamp.com](http://www.powervamp.com)**

## TURKEY

**GENDARMERIE:** In the wake of recently announced plans to restructure helicopter requirements and manufacture in the country plans to equip the Gendarmerie with helicopters with a Night-Sun searchlight capability have been put on hold.

The project for the import of 32 searchlight equipped helicopters is seen as too similar to the domestically designed and built helicopter project to survive.

Agusta, Eurocopter and Indian company HAL were competing for the contract in the tender for the procurement of the helicopters. [Todays Zaman]

## UNITED KINGDOM

**NATIONAL:** On November 8 a tender was issued by the Yorkshire Purchasing Authority based in Wakefield as lead organization for a national "Framework agreement" contract for the supply of Jet-A1 kerosene fuel for Police helicopters.

The Framework seeks to cover fuel supplies from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 for a period of four years. The document names West Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Police, Greater Manchester Police, Merseyside Police, The Metropolitan Police, North Wales Police, Dyfed Powys Police and North Midlands Police but, like all such documents, is designed to allow access to the Framework prices and conditions by any UK Police Air Support Unit.

The tender will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender in terms of the criteria stated below:

Cost. Weighting: 40.

Delivery. Weighting: 20.

Customer Service. Weighting: 20.



Complete Air to Ground Microwave Systems to Suit your Needs

The **Downlink Experts**

**BMS**

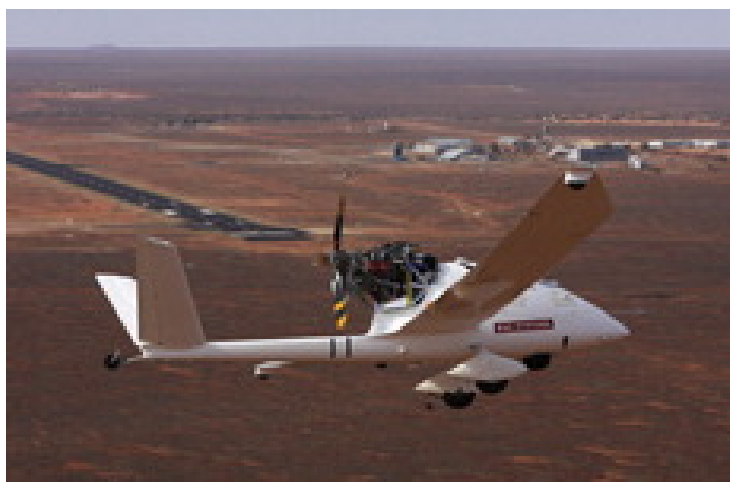
Tel: +1-858-391-3050 • Fax: +1-858-391-3049 Email • dept500@bms-inc.com • [Broadcast Microwave Services](http://www.bms-inc.com)

Quality. Weighting: 10.

Environmental. Weighting: 10.

The time-limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate is set for 10am January 7<sup>th</sup> 2008.

**KENT:** As BAE Systems was announcing the deployment of its HERTI UAV system into an operational environment with the RAF in Afghanistan as one of the worlds first fully autonomous unmanned air vehicles the police in Kent were among a group signing up to the use of the same craft for future patrols over the English Channel.



In Afghanistan this summer the HERTI was part of Project Morrigan, a joint initiative between the RAF Air Warfare Centre and BAE Systems. Launched in September 2006, it aims to integrate HERTI UAV systems into UK forces for a short period in order to develop potential Tactics, Techniques & Procedures for the integration of HERTI's capabilities into existing joint manned/unmanned force structures.

HERTI has the ability to take off, complete a full mission and land – all at the click of a computer mouse and effectively removing the need for an operator or pilot to control the aircraft from the ground.

Initially a concept demonstrator, HERTI's first flight was achieved in December 2004 using common systems, powerplants and ground stations with other BAE Systems UAV programmes.

**METROPOLITAN:** As briefly mentioned last month, the three Metropolitan Police AS355N helicopters are now up for sale. At the end of October Regourd Aviation announced it has been appointed as the exclusive resellers of the of helicopters.



**LOCATION: East London**

They list the three VFR machines as:

c/n 5525 G-SEPA 13,800 hours 18,913 cycles.

c/n 5575 G-SEPB 11, 535 hours, 16,221 ctcles.

c/n 5594 G-SEPC 11,516 hours, 15,248 cycles.

For any information, contact Regourd Aviation via e-mail: [acsales@regourd.com](mailto:acsales@regourd.com) or phone: +33 1 5367 7100.

## UNITED STATES

FEDERAL: A US Customs and Border Protection [CBP] helicopter was damaged when someone fired gunshots at the CBP hangar at Yuma International Airport during a time when the facility was unattended. The outer shell of the Eurocopter EC120B helicopter inside was pierced.

The 'attack' may not have been specifically directed at the CBP machine as another gunshot went through two other nearby hangars owned by The Yuma County Airport Authority. In another gunfire incident smugglers who abandoned two truckloads of marijuana along the Colorado River after crossing into the United States fired shots at a helicopter carrying federal agents but missed.

Authorities monitoring remote CCTV cameras along the river spotted six vehicles crossing the river from Mexico into Arizona. The smugglers drove back toward Mexico when Border Patrol agents approached. But two of the smugglers' vehicles bogged down in the sand, and those who were in the disabled trucks escaped on foot. A CBP helicopter flying nearby in support of agents on the ground noted a number of shots being fired at the aircraft, apparently from across the river.

Agents seized 175 bundles of marijuana that weighed almost 2,300 pounds from the two vehicles that were left behind.



**Maximum  
Imaging  
Surveillance  
Technology**

**M.I.S.T.® ...anything lately?**

For over a decade, **RDDS** has provided Police, SAR and Military Organisations throughout the U.K. and the world with the proprietary **M.I.S.T.** image enhancement system, helping these vital organisations see the way clear to accomplish their missions.

Building on the success of this pioneering technology, **RDDS** introduces a new range of products including:

- HD multifunctional displays
- Drop-in LCD replacements for 9" CRT monitors

**RDDS**, the **FIRST** choice for vision-enhanced airborne surveillance systems, is still the **CLEAR** choice.

Email: [sales@rdds.co.uk](mailto:sales@rdds.co.uk) Tel: +44 1843 233030 Web: [rdds.co.uk](http://rdds.co.uk)

**RDDS**

**Mission Critical  
R&D Design Services Ltd**

Star Lane, Margate, Kent, CT9 4ED • Registered in England: 03414444

CALIFORNIA: After four years of research and promotion the Monterey County Sheriff's Office has acquired air support. The Sheriff's Tactical Airborne Response (STAR) team will have two helicopters, STAR 1 a Robinson R44 serving as the primary helicopter and STAR 2 a Bell JetRanger assigned a primary role of back-up.

Monterey County is the only Sheriff's Office in the state using the Robinson R-44 helicopter but three cities in California [Fontana, El Monte and San Bernardino] use the type.

CALIFORNIA: Pasadena Police used publicity to ease growing tensions between their helicopter operation and local area residents concerned over the noise of police helicopters. At an Open House event for the department's Air Operations Section they showcased three of their five helicopters to hundreds of visitors and gave residents a preview of what could be in store for the department's future - a quieter helicopter.

The main problem has been issues arising from the community about disturbances caused from helicopters circling over crime scenes at night.

In a presentation the department explained that the current fleet consisting of military surplus helicopters from the 1970s may be noisy but that fact alone saved the city a lot of money. Newer helicopters cost around \$1.3M each against the refurbished Bell OH-58 Kiowa's machines average unit cost of about \$50,000.

The finale of the event was a flyover demonstration that compared Pasadena's current helicopters to a more modern, quieter MD520N that is currently in use by the Glendale Police Department. The MD is one of many that are being considered for the future of Pasadena's fleet.

CALIFORNIA: The Hawthorne Police Department celebrated the return to service of its Air 55 helicopter an MD500E N521PD with a barbecue luncheon outside City Hall. The helicopter was grounded for more than two years because the city couldn't afford the cost, which was about \$250,000 a year.

The Los Angeles area city has a population of nearly 87,000 within a six square mile area near Los Angeles International Airport surrounded on each side by a number of Freeways.

They have used a range of helicopters in the past, mostly in association with neighbouring cities. They were one of six cities in the Los Angeles South Bay area that used a Robinson R44 Police demonstrator helicopter during the busy holiday season around 7 years ago before commencing regular air patrols within its city limits on January 3, 2001 following trials with the Robinson R22 and Schweizer S300C helicopters. The finances turned around getting money from others that largely failed to materialise.

The MD500E was acquired from a neighbouring operator Newport Beach and Costa Mesa for \$415,000 in 2001. It entered service in 2002 with some financial support from the cities of Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and Torrance.

COLORADO: The Colorado Springs Police Department Air Support Unit is being grounded as of December 15 due to city budget cuts. The plan is to maintain the hangar and purchase a new civilian aircraft when funds become available. All sworn personnel (4 pilots) will resume duties as patrol officers. The two flyable OH-58's are likely to be sold.

Colorado Springs is a city with 360,000 people, 186 square miles. The unit was formed with three OH-58A/Cs at Fort Carson in 1995. They moved out of Carson in March 2001 into a new hangar, just north of the old Colorado Springs airport terminal. The remaining flightworthy OH-58As are believed to be N197PD c/n 41296 71-20435 and N198PD c/n 40261 68-16947. [CSPD/IPAR]



MARYLAND: New technology developed by Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel has led to the Maryland State Police [MSP] helicopters being equipped with aerial computer records of the state's most important Homeland Security structures.

Previously all recording of target information was kept in hard copy form – simply notes kept

on a knee pad and were not necessarily instantly available for briefing all crews. The new replacement computer files and images help crews determine whether the new features – perhaps a visiting truck - is supposed to be on-site.

The Critical Infrastructure Inspection Management System [CIIMS], funded by the US Department of Homeland Security, provides pilots with a tablet-sized computer equipped with a database of previous information about potential terrorist targets, such as bridges and dams.

The CIIMS system provides the crewman with a series of questions guiding them through the inspection and adds new information entered into the database by other agencies including those from local, state and federal law enforcement.

The new technology will spread to other states, and could be used in patrol cars and even during foot patrols in the future.

The CIIMS, an 'electronic flight bag' tablet computer was initiated by the MSP with Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab and US Dept of Homeland Security.

The project grew out of a vision that police aircraft can efficiently monitor key nodes of critical infrastructure during routine and special flights if provided the right communication tools and information.

In the initial research phase, MSP discovered that advancements in aviation and Geospatial Information System (GIS) technologies could be combined with standardised vulnerability assessment processes to help build a network of police aircraft that is capable of providing the right reconnaissance at the right time.

This network can be built across agency and jurisdictional lines to maximise early warning and multiply the efforts of first responders. [Sergeant/Pilot Don Teesdale MSP Police Aviation Command Gazette/Baltimore Examiner]



# Enterprise Control Systems Limited

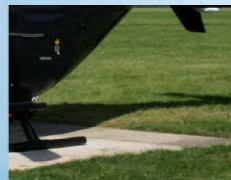
Specialist design through innovation and technology

Digital Video Airborne Systems,  
COFDM Tactical Data Video Links,  
Portable Receiving Systems,  
Observation Networks

Queen's Award  
for Enterprise:  
Innovation 2007



Airborne  
COFDM  
downlinks for  
the Beijing  
Olympics - 2008



Tailormade  
Solutions  
Worldwide



ECS provides secure digital COFDM uplink and downlink systems for all data applications and users

[www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk](http://www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk)

Tel: + 44 (0) 1327 860050 email: [sales@enterprisecontrol.co.uk](mailto:sales@enterprisecontrol.co.uk)

MISSOURI: St. Louis, Missouri-based Aerospace Filtration Systems, Inc. (AFS) have announced a donation of \$3,000 to their local St. Louis Metro Airborne Law Enforcement Foundation. The Foundation assists the local Metro Air Support Unit in funding its aerial law enforcement helicopter operations throughout St. Louis and St. Charles Counties as well as in St. Louis City. Earlier this year, AFS sponsored the company's first annual AFS Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Foundation.

Previously, the company also contributed \$10,000 to the cost of painting one of Metro Air Support's frontline patrol aircraft. The unit now has two of its MD500E helicopters painted with the classic black and white police paint scheme.

AFS will be at Booth 4013 during the HELI-EXPO 2008 in Houston, Texas, February 24-26, 2008. [www.afsfilters.com](http://www.afsfilters.com)

TEXAS: The Houston Police Department [HPD] was one of the two law enforcement operations selected to trial UAV's under controlled conditions for the Feds but in recent days it looks as if they have been trying to play their cards very close to their chest and hide their activities.

It is claimed that when they trialed a Scan Eagle UAV over a remote farm plot in Waller County on November 21 they shrouded their activities like it was some top-secret military venture and greatly increased the interest of both the residents and the media – the latter were banned further heightening the sense of mystery at what ought to have been an open investigation of the technology.

The location of the trial was some 70 miles northwest of Houston and police cars surrounded the scrubby land with roadblocks in place to check each of the dignitaries arriving for the invitation-only event. The invitations included the US Department of Homeland Security and dozens of officers from various police agencies in the Houston area. The props included a row of suitably mysterious black trucks, satellite dishes and a rotating radar dishes, all items to get tongues wagging on a low news day.

The media may have not breached the inner site security but the local TV news organisation was not put off. It used ground and helicopter born cameras to record everything as if they had been invited. As a result a low interest news story that would have probably bored everyone was the subject of the probing high powered camera following the aircraft for more than one hour as it circled overhead.

Worse than that the news hounds hauled in to the studios critics of all police surveillance and the local non-event was being hyped up to be an international cause for concern. Many US citizens take a dim view of probing cameras [especially ones able to look through walls like the hype in superdrive was suggesting] and surveillance in general. HPD was pushing the 'Homeland Security' angle but all the news organization saw was traffic cars driving out of the site. So, for the sake of an unnecessary secret, the Scan Eagle is now being presented to a sceptical public as a speed camera carrier.

All the flying appears to have been undertaken by the developers of the Scan Eagle - Insitu, Inc. based in Bingen, Washington. The 40 pounds/ 18kg craft has a 10.2 ft / 3.1 m wing-span and requires a substantial support team – all those black trucks. It is launched by a catapult rather than by hand so all in all it is a substantial machine and somewhat difficult to hide from view.

It seems that the HPD 'wasn't ready to publicise' the demonstration [although the Feds had already told the media that they were to trial them] but in the event they were forced into hastily setting up a news conference when they realised that the whole event had gone su-





Conference and Exhibition 18-20 March 2008 Bournemouth International Centre, UK

per public.

Perhaps worse it seems HPD tried resorting to telling the media that an FAA air exclusion zone was in force over the farm site. They even threatened the news helicopter which simply checked and rechecked with the FAA to confirm that someone was being economical with the truth. HPD just made a bad situation worse and lifted a nothing event to the height of public interest.

## AIR AMBULANCE

### AUSTRALIA

**ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE:** The Royal Flying Doctor Service's (RFDS) new \$3M operational base at the Port Augusta airport in South Australia was officially opened last month.

The Port Augusta facility is the first to offer the RFDS health, communication, aviation, administration and engineering facilities in a single location. The site includes three hangars and will coordinate flying doctor tasks across South Australia.

At the ceremony almost 300 people saw the new operational base officially unveiled by Health Minister John Hill. Three meritorious service awards were presented at the ceremony.

The foundation stone of the Port Augusta facility was laid in 1954, it was officially opened in 1955.

### GERMANY

**DRF:** In association with TuPASS German Air Rescue has conducted simulator training for medical staff in Bruneck and Brixen For the first time, five experienced former participants, three emergency physicians and two paramedics from South Tyrol were trained as co-instructors. They will profit from the long-time experience of the DRF and TüPASS in the area of simulation. The training centre of the White Cross South Tyrol intends to offer simulator training for its medical staff in the next year.

The simulator unit replicates the patient, with the instructor team directing the unit by computer. The individual clinical symptoms are digitally imported. The high-tech doll can, for example, express respiratory noises, speak and move. A problem with artificial respiration can, for instance, be shown by the tongue's swelling of the simulator unit.

The high tech unit is attached to the medical equipment in an ambulance vehicle and realistically reproduces ECG-rhythms. The trainee medical team can communicate with the simulator doll as with a real patient, infusions and drugs can be given, injection pumps and all kinds of drainage may be applied. Several cameras record the training from different perspectives so that a detailed evaluation of the video sequences is possible among the participants.

DRF has been offering training courses with mobile simulator units to their doctors and paramedics since 2004. The DRF cooperates with the leading simulation centers in Germany. In the past two years 850 participants have been trained.

## HONG KONG

AirMed has announced plans to open an international base in Hong Kong in early 2008, making it the first US air ambulance company to operate a base in China. AirMed will also open offices in four cities in Southeast Asia, including Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore and Beijing. With the addition of the Hong Kong base, AirMed will be more equipped than most in the industry to provide specialty care in a wide range of specialties and a seamless transport package. A third Hawker 800 long-range aircraft will be based in Hong Kong, bringing AirMed's total fleet to nine medically dedicated aircraft, and plans are underway to bring the fleet to eleven aircraft in 2008.

AirMed operates a fleet of fully customized fixed-wing aircraft from its headquarters in Birmingham, Alabama, with additional bases in Honolulu, Hawaii, Rochester, Minnesota and soon, Hong Kong. For more information about AirMed International, see our website at [airmed.com](http://airmed.com).

## INDIA

**BANGALORE:** Although it allows patients to avoid negotiating the narrow roads, bumper to bumper traffic, endless traffic signals and an accident death rate which is the highest in the country there have not been many taking up the availability of an air ambulance service. The service operated by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) was launched as 'Vayu Vahan' last year using a specially role equipped Chetak [Alouette] helicopter for emergency medical evacuation and air charter services.



 **eurocopter uk**  
an EADS Company

# Eurocopter EC135

**...providing a  
safer community**

**Eurocopter UK Limited**  
Oxford Airport, Kidlington, Oxfordshire  
OX5 1QZ.  
Telephone: 01865 841188  
Fax: 01865 842827  
Sales: [sales@eurocopter.co.uk](mailto:sales@eurocopter.co.uk)  
Website: [www.eurocopter.co.uk](http://www.eurocopter.co.uk)

It has so far undertaken only one operation since it was set up in October 2006 when a Japanese tourist was airlifted after she suffered spinal injuries while travelling in a bus from Goa to Hubli.

One reason for the Vayu Vahan not taking off as expected could be due to the non-participation by health insurance companies. [BangaloreBuzz]

## IRAN

Russia is to export five Ulan-Ude built Mi-171 transport helicopters to the Iranian Red Crescent Society in 2009. The deal was signed in October and details announced at the Dubai Air Show last month.

The Ulan-Ude factory has previously supplied thirty-five Mi-171 and Mi-171Sh helicopters to Iran fulfilling VIP and transport roles.

## ISRAEL

A new commercial flying ambulance service that removes dependence on the services of the Israeli Air Force has been launched. The first helicopter, A Bolkow BO105 4X- BJJ set down at its new base on the helipad at Poriya Medical Center in Tiberias last month. It is operated for the MDA the national health society of Israel – the Magen David Adom set up in 1950.

The Lahak company attempted a similar service with the MDA in the early 1970s after an Alouette helicopter was donated by French sources. But the maintenance costs were found to be too high to sustain.

The red and white MDA helicopter - Yarden 90 – was quickly called into service to transport injured persons and a sick child. The helicopter evacuated two people who were seriously injured in two different accidents and transferred a patient who required an emergency operation. [JP]

## MALAYSIA

**FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE:** An air ambulance service that has delivered medical assistance since 1973 has had to be suspended after the contractor undertaking the provision of aircraft fell below expectations. It has now been decided that a new 2007-10 contract for the Flying Doctor Service (FDS) in Sarawak must specify that twin-engine aircraft with emergency medical evacuation service are deployed in view of the spate of accidents involving helicopters, resulting in casualties over the past few years.

SAR Helicopters Sdn Bhd was awarded the contract from 2007 but was unable to fulfil it and the contract was eventually terminated last month. The process of the re-tender is expected to take some six months, meanwhile a temporary provider is being sought. It has been suggested that Hornbill Skyways, operators of the FDS for more than three decades is being favoured. [BERNAMA]

## PAKISTAN

Specialist Aviation Services [SAS] of Gloucestershire Airport UK working on a Bo105S for air ambulance operations in Pakistan as AP-BHR. SAS will not be drawn on the final destination of the Bolkow but delivery is thought to be imminent. The red helicopter carries the titles of Princely Air Ambulance. [Rotorhub]

## UNITED KINGDOM

**COUNTY:** County Air Ambulance has announced the launch of its new helicopter service in Staffordshire as its fourth helicopter.

The Chair of South Staffordshire Council, Councillor Mrs. Patricia Griffin officially launched

**Reims F406 Land & Sea Surveillance**

The logical economical choice of many operators  
Police, Fisheries, Coastguard, EMINT, EEZ patrol.

Recent sales and deliveries  
Serial No. 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95

Bob Crowe Aircraft Sales Ltd  
Tel: +44 (0)1234 750442  
www.bobcroweaircraft.com  
sales@bobcroweaircraft.com

the Staffordshire Air Ambulance Appeal in front of what was said to be the new county helicopter at Somerford Hall, Brewood near Stafford on October 30.

The appeal is in the wake of the recently announced decision to base an aircraft in Staffordshire but it made no mention of the intyent to pull out of East Midlands Airport. As a result this launch was on the basis of the new helicopter being number four in the fleet, making County the largest air ambulance operator in the UK.

Great PR but in truth it is to be a temporary measure using a spare aircraft from Bond that will shrink back to being a three aircraft operation in March 2008.

A positive aspect of this is that there will be a new additional helicopter EMS operating as a replacement for the displaced County EC135 at East Midlands Airport. Different helicopter [Agusta A109] and operator. [CAA]

**DORSET & SOMERSET:** In a not unexpected development the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance [DSAA] are to move their Eurocopter EC135T2 helicopter away from Yeovil Airfield, home of the AgustaWestland plant, to the nearby Royal Navy base at Yeovilton.

The move will provide good physical security to their operation but it is a temporary move and effectively draw to a close the furore over their arrival at AgustaWestland months ago.

Ongoing negotiations for a permanent base continue, and D&SAA are hoping to be able to announce that in December or January. [SP]

*Ed: DSAA commenced operations from the small airfield at Henstridge near the Dorset Somerset border but development work there saw them move out to their current temporary base at Yeovil. Amicable arrangements were made with a local management at AgustaWestland who were already said to fund-raise for the operation despite the fact that they happened to operate a Eurocopter. Unfortunately these accommodations were widely reported to have been frowned on by visiting Italian management. Once the story went public a tight-lipped DSAA maintained a professional silence but a move was clearly needed to keep the peace.*

**THAMES VALLEY:** Two key figures in the past leadership of the Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance [TVAC] have stepped down. Chief fund-raiser Stevie Horton and president Gerry Anderson - creator of the mid-1960's Thunderbirds puppet show - have both quit the Trust.

The resignations are in the wake of the arrival of Chief executive Lyn Paver, who was bought in earlier this year from running the Devon Air Ambulance.

The official reports played down the split but elsewhere in media reports the situation was spelled out more clearly. Thunderbirds creator Gerry was said to have walked away from the charity in disgust over the organisation's treatment of Stevie Horton, who has gone after eight years dedicated service as its chief fundraiser.

He said that Mrs Horton had been 'pushed out' and that a number of the trust's employees

**Reims F406 Land & Sea Surveillance**

The logical economical choice of many operators  
Police, Fisheries, Coastguard, EMINT, EEZ patrol.

Recent sales and deliveries  
Serial No. 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95

Bob Crowe Aircraft Sales Ltd  
Tel: +44 (0)1234 750442  
www.bobcroweaircraft.com  
sales@bobcroweaircraft.com

were unhappy with recent shake-ups at the charity.

At the core of the moves is a reshuffle that Ms Paver set in place that did not suit everyone. Paver was brought in to revitalize the fundraising for a replacement of the current BO105 helicopter with a new EC135 and it seems that the existing fundraising streams were just not to her liking. Their Whirlybird Lottery is poorly supported and they needed to look at other long term sustainable income.

Unwilling to take the post offered to her Stevie Horton took redundancy. [www.airambulancetvac.org](http://www.airambulancetvac.org)



WALES: Health Minister Edwina Hart has announced a second major review of the Welsh Ambulance Service and the availability of £337,000 to pay for air ambulance paramedic teams' salaries. This sum, available in this financial year, will allow the air ambulance service to cover the full salary costs of its paramedic team and will cover some earlier underfunding. The money will not be given directly to the charity, but will go to the ambulance trust to pay the paramedics' wages.

The ongoing review covers both air and ground ambulance performance – including response times – and in the case of the charity provided air ambulance services will examine current protocols, location, usage and deployment of existing helicopters.

## UNITED STATES

AirMed International ([airmed.com](http://airmed.com)) has taken home top international honours, winning the prestigious Air Ambulance of the Year Award at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual ITIJ Awards Ceremony. The awards are presented by London-based Voyager Group's International Travel Insurance Journal (ITIJ) and were held this year at their annual conference in Venice. The ITIJ Awards represent the finest in the air medical fields as well as insurance underwriters, assistance companies and cost containment providers. Judging for the awards is performed by an impartial panel of experts in the global travel insurance and medical transport industries.



*(left to right) Brandon Bates, Jeffrey Tolbert and Mike Key accepting the ITIJ Air Ambulance of the Year Award in Venice.*

## FIRE

### ITALY

Last month a Russian UTair Aviation JSC Mil Mi-26 helicopter flew from Salonnicco, Greece, to Rome to perform an evaluation test for Italian Civil Defense purposes, including fire-fighting.

Representatives of the Defense Ministry observed the helicopter undertaking 15 ton water drops. UTair has a long-standing experience of fire fighting operations outside Russia. Crews of the airlines subsidiaries UTair South Africa and UTair Europe have been involved in fore fighting operations for many years.

UTair's fleet numbers over 180 helicopters, including more than 20 Mi-26's. The helicopter has a crew of 13, including 4 pilots and 4 cargo managers, and has a main rotor with a diameter of 31 metres. [Avionews/RH]



## TURKEY

The Turkish Undersecretariat for the Defense Industry (SSM) has plans to develop Turkey's capability to produce its own helicopters

The existing Turna general purpose and fire fighting helicopter projects will be merged to produce helicopters needed by the Land Forces Command, the Gendarmerie General Command, the General Directorate of Security and the General Directorate of Forestry. The SSM has identified that these three projects are dependent on external resources and have decided to develop another project to merge them and to submit this new project to the Defense Industry Implementation Committee (SSİK). Under this project, 86 general purpose helicopters would be produced. This brings to an end the tender for importing law enforcement helicopters for the Gendarmerie.

Under the project developed by the SSM, 32 helicopters for the Gendarmerie General Command and the General Directorate of Security, 34 helicopters for the Land Forces Command and 20 general purpose helicopters, which will be used for firefighting by the General Directorate of Forestry, will be produced. [Today's Zaman]

## SEARCH & RESCUE

### ITALY

UAV manufacturer Advanced Aviation Technology (A2TECH), was invited to participate in the Italian Veneto region Sisma 2007 earthquake response exercise, held at Lake Garda at the end of October. The company took their with their RV-02 EFR micro-UAV making it the first time a micro-UAV had been used in the role.

The audience for the UAV demonstrations included potential customers including representatives from civil defence, fire fighting, coast guards, forestry and the media.

The UAV demonstrated fully pilot-in-loop flight in harsh environments and weather conditions, where digital mapping was not available and preprogramming of missions was not possible. The take-off and landing was performed from a regular soccer pitch surrounded by trees and illumination masts. [www.a2tech.eu](http://www.a2tech.eu)

### UNITED KINGDOM

**NATIONAL:** With the approval of the Charity Commission the *Sky Watch* auxiliary air service has changed its name to *Sky Watch Civil Air Patrol*. Chairman, Arnold Parker explained, "The Trustees believe that the new name more closely reflects the role of what is now the largest volunteer flying group of its type in Europe."

"With a fleet of aircraft that may well reach 250 by the end of 2007 there are many parallels to be drawn between the US Civil Air Patrol and its UK equivalent", the Chairman added.

Sky Watch now has 16 units throughout the UK and many more pilots and aircraft operating from detached locations. With the motto 'Observe and Report' public safety is at the forefront of Sky Watch activities and this year it became a member of the Voluntary Sector Civil Protection Forum which works closely with Government Civil Contingencies Secretariat to integrate voluntary groups with the emergency services when dealing with national emergencies such as wide scale flooding.

Sky Watch has a memorandum of understanding with HM Coastguard who list the charities aircraft as additional resources to supplement the dedicated search and rescue aircraft. Some units also work closely with the volunteer mountain rescue teams. [SWCAP]



*Small aircraft can be a big help to the professional emergency services. This Eurostar, flown by John Lynch, recently assisted a police helicopter in carrying out a search for a missing person.*

**SKYWATCH:** Sky Watch and Thames Barrier Coastguard are carrying out trials with an MT-03 gyrocopter. Coastguard Officers Adrian Bates and Phil Myers are dealing with the Thames part of the operation and Sky Watch Pilot Kai Maurer is flying the gyro. The trials will consist of simple air observation and search flights and radio communication trials along the south bank of the Thames, roughly from 5nm West of Gravesend to Whitstable Harbour. The purpose of the trials are to jointly evaluate the gyrocopter for air observation and search work along the Thames coastline and to test the viability of transmitting from the aircraft's radio to a hand held airband radio. The MT-03 can fly in wind and turbulent conditions which would deter operations by conventional light aircraft and the radio trials, if successful, might provide a solution for communicating with individual Coastguard patrols and the smaller Coastguard stations which do not have a comprehensive aircraft communications station.

The German manufactured MT-03 is the same type as that recently reported on trial with the German Police of Brandenburg based at Berlin Schonefeld Airport as a supplement to the police force's traditional EC135 helicopters.



**NORTH SEA:** CHC Helicopter Corporation has secured a contract renewal and upgrade with StatoilHydro for the provision of one Eurocopter EC225 all-weather search and rescue helicopter in support of StatoilHydro's offshore operations in the North Sea.

The helicopter is an addition to the June 2007 contract for CHC to provide two EC225 SAR helicopters. The 7.5-year contract term will commence in October 2008, with additional options for up to four years. [Rigzone]

**UK COASTGUARD:** Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation has announced that CHC Helicopter Corp. has now signed a contract for twelve S-92 helicopters. The helicopters will be used primarily to fulfill offshore transportation requirements in all corners of the world, but may also be used in the commercial Search and Rescue (SAR) role.

These aircraft will be used around the globe in CHC's expanding marketplace and might be seen as improving their position for the future beyond the interim contract to supply aircraft to the MCA from 2007 to 2012. Delivery of the new batch of S-92 helicopters is expected to begin in 2009.

The 'second string' in CHC's MCA contract, the AgustaWestland 139 has also been favoured with additional orders from the company. AgustaWestland has signed a contract to supply thirteen AW139 helicopters to CHC adding to a previous contract for twenty examples of the same helicopter model, which CHC uses for offshore and rescue transport.

Two new AgustaWestland AB139 helicopters are expected to take over search and rescue duties at Lee-on-the-Solent early in the new year. They will be the first of the type to be operated for the Coastguard, and will be nearly 40 knots faster than the Sikorsky S-61N helicopter they replace. [SH/AW/Yachting and Boating World/ANN]

## UNITED STATES

**INDIANAPOLIS:** Central Indiana is about to get a new hovercraft for its search and rescue arsenal. The craft is to be used on the Wabash River a waterway that is regularly too shallow for anything but hovercraft.

Central Indiana's new hovercraft came from Neoteric Hovercraft Inc. factory in Terre Haute, Indiana. Although this is a local product the craft have sold internationally and operate with such as the US Border Patrol in Yuma.

The new hovercraft will be kept at an Indianapolis fire station, available for emergencies across central Indiana. The \$57,000 machine was paid for by a federal Homeland Security grant. [News 8]



*Neoteric rescue hovercraft employed by US Border Patrol Search, Trauma & Rescue (Borstar), Yuma Sector, Arizona. Hovercraft are an increasingly important rescue vehicle for the INS division of the US Department of Homeland Security.*

## INDUSTRY BRIEFS

Last March the **Swedish Space Corporation** signed a contract with the government of India for delivery of three MSS 5000 Pollution Surveillance Systems along with spare parts, installation assistance and training.

First of these systems is installed onboard a locally built Dornier 228 aircraft and is in operation. The aircraft are produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) in Kanpur and operated by the Indian Coast Guard.

The Indian Coast Guard is responsible for protecting a coastline of over 7500 km and an Economic Zone of more than 2 million square km. The Economic Zone is expected to expand further in the next few years and the Coast Guard is looking to expanding and modernising its fleet of vessels and aircraft to meet the increased responsibility.

The MSS 5000 Maritime Surveillance System



was originally designed by SSC for pollution surveillance at sea. With the MSS 5000 the scope of the system has been expanded to give a more effective operation for a multitude of sea surveillance tasks such as the monitoring of the Exclusive Economic Zone, fishery control and search-and-rescue in addition to the pollution control and environmental protection task. The system concept includes a tight integration of SLAR, IR/UV, cameras and other sensors with a digital map database to give full and clear overview of the area under surveillance. The MSS 5000 has increased SLAR coverage, real time geocorrection of sensor imagery, easy and flexible transfer of reports and imagery to headquarters or to a ground command post, to name a few of the improvements in the new system.

**Aerosimulators** have announced a formal strategic alliance with AeroComputers, Inc., based in Oxnard, California. The result of this alliance is an enhancement of Aerosimulators' Gimbal Imaging System Trainer (GIST) debuted at HAI and ALEA this past year. AeroComputers is the industry leader in providing mission management systems that integrate GPS-based moving maps, image collection and transmission, illumination and data storage. The system of choice for law enforcement world wide will now be available and integrated into Aerosimulators GIST resulting in a total system simulation including GPS moving map displays replicated exactly as in the real aircraft. Aerosimulators is the only company to offer a full systems trainer for gimbal imaging systems such as Wescam and FLIR. For more information you are invited to view our websites at [www.aerosimulators.com](http://www.aerosimulators.com) and [www.aerocomputers.com](http://www.aerocomputers.com).



In line with its strategy to be a multi-local player with its own facilities in all its key markets, **Eurocopter** has announced the acquisition of all remaining shares of McAlpine Helicopters Limited as of November 1, 2007. Eurocopter previously held 10% in the British company which now becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary, Eurocopter UK Limited. Through this investment, the world's leading helicopter manufacturer underlines its commitment to its significant market and customer base in the UK and Ireland.

For the past 30 years, McAlpine Helicopters has achieved an exemplary performance in the distribution and support of Eurocopter products, with well over 200 helicopters sold. This success is attributable to the highly skilled workforce, its capacity to design, install, flight test and certify modifications tailored to the market requirements, and to deliver first-class support for a very sizeable helicopter fleet. The company presently employs 169 staff.

Today, Eurocopter's market share in the UK and Ireland is 73% in the police and law enforcement segment, 73% in the EMS market and 50% in the commercial/private segment. Eurocopter fully acknowledges Kenneth McAlpine's visionary contribution to this success and to aviation in general during his 60 years of involvement in the industry.

The expansion plan envisaged for Eurocopter UK Ltd. will aim at increasing the UK content of services, both in the civil and military markets, which in turn will provide development opportunities for its staff.

Eurocopter is confident in the ability of Eurocopter UK's current management team and staff to continue to run the company and its future expansion, and therefore does not envisage to change the present team or the existing facilities in Oxford. [EC]

*Ed: That long held 10% allowed Eurocopter to have a seat on the board so the group have had a guiding hand on the way the company travelled for some time. PAN understands that the next Chairman, Olivier Lambert, will be moving in shortly. Lambert, has previously served as Eurocopter's Senior Vice President Sales and Customer Relations and headed up other EC divisions.*

*No immediate changes are expected, no mass ejections no changes in the day to day operations. In time it can be expected that the breadth of customers will widen – although whether such as the North Sea operators based in Scotland will see much point in travelling south to Oxford remains to be seen.*

*McAlpine's were originally representatives of Aerospatiale and nearly thirty years ago were in the forefront of providing AS350 aircraft to the police in the UK [1978 Devon & Cornwall illustrated right].*

*They were very much head to head with MBB/Bolkow at that time they took over representing Eurocopter and moved away from operating to concentrate on sales and completions.*

*It is worth noting that although modern German EC products are firmly at Oxford I do not ever recall much in the way of the older generation – the BO105 - being worked on there since Aerospatiale and MBB/Bolkow linked up. That only serves to illustrate that a nominal change in status may not result in every Eurocopter product suddenly descending on the plant. All changes can be expected to be incremental.*



The website for Oxford is <http://www.eurocopter.co.uk> The old E-mail system remains operative but this is rapidly transferring over to a sequence using [firstname.secondname@eurocopter.co.uk](mailto:firstname.secondname@eurocopter.co.uk)

**AKV, Inc** has received FAA STC and PMA approval for the new BK117 Twin Engine Cycle Counter. The new BK117 Cycle Counter allows operators to fully conform with the engine manufacturer requirement for Gas Producer (Ng) and Free Turbine (Np) cycle counting. This system is designed as an alternate cycle counting device for the very popular Arriel 1E2 powered EC145. The installation location allows for easy viewing by the pilot and is designed to replace OEM gauges in the overhead console. Real time Ng and Np speeds are displayed along with accumulated cycles on two independent and redundant computers utilizing the less conservative and far more accurate "recommended procedure" all the while continuously monitoring and accumulating partial cycles associated with engine speed changes. Flight and separate revenue timers are also included to replace the standard hour meters. From next year additional installation approvals in LTS101 powered BK117 will give the complete fleet of existing BK117's, past and present the ability to easily conform to current cycle counting procedures from both engine manufacturers. [www.akvinc.com](http://www.akvinc.com)



For the past five years, AKV have designed and manufactured cycle counters for AS350 helicopters powered with Arriel 1 or LTS101 engines along with a T53 cycle counter for the Bell UH-1 helicopter. AKV also manufacture a mobile engine compressor wash cart for small to medium helicopters and jets. Additional projects are in the certification process with approvals for 2008. [AKV]

**Bell Helicopter** has announced the sale of four of its new 429 model aircraft to California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR), a regional non-profit helicopter ambulance service. The 429, currently in flight test, will begin customer deliveries late in 2008. Since its introduction into the marketplace the Bell 429 has seen an ever increasing order backlog that now stands well over 200.

**R&D Design Services, Ltd.** (RDDS), of Margate, Kent, U.K., a leading provider of vision-enhanced airborne surveillance systems to worldwide Civil, Police and Military organisations, have announced that they have entered into an agreement with Max-Viz, Inc. of Portland Oregon to represent the Max-Viz Enhanced Vision System (EVS). The Max-Vis EVS-1000 enables pilots to see through conditions of poor visibility such as haze, smoke, snow, rain, and the darkness of night, all of which improves a pilot's view of the outside environment and operate more safely.

The agreement allows RDDS to represent the Max-Vis, Inc. Enhanced Vision System (EVS) to its well-established client base.

This agreement with Max-Vis, Inc. brings an exciting addition to the full array of products RDDS has to offer clients, a wide portfolio of innovative solutions that are dedicated to improving airborne surveillance performance. [www.rdds.co.uk](http://www.rdds.co.uk)

**Goodrich Corporation** unveiled a new 115,000-square-foot aircraft component and systems maintenance and repair campus in the Middle East last month. The official opening event was to be attended by Goodrich's customers, senior executives and other guests from Jebel Ali Free Trade Zone (JAFZA) and the aerospace community.

The new purpose-built facility, in Dubai's JAFZA, will offer a full range of Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) services for components and systems for both commercial and military aerospace customers from Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA). Its services will cover a broad range of aircraft including the new Airbus A380. The repair services offered will encompass components and systems from aircraft nacelle systems, cargo systems, de-icing systems, hoists and winches, sensor systems and aircraft evacuation systems.

The campus represents a \$25 million investment by Goodrich providing localized support for its customers and will enable the company to bring its multiple MRO capabilities and products under one roof. The campus currently employs 50 people and this is expected to increase to around 100 within the next year. [www.goodrich.com](http://www.goodrich.com)



**THE NEXT GENERATION OF SECURITY ...**

- Airborne Video Downlinks
- Central Command
- Disaster Recovery
- GPS Tracking
- Ground Surveillance
- Port & Border Patrol
- SATCOM

**MICROWAVE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

Visit our new web site at ...  
[www.mrcsecurity.com](http://www.mrcsecurity.com)

**Chelton Flight Systems**, part of the Cobham Avionics & Surveillance, has been FAA certified to undertake its own STC certification activities under FAA oversight. Chelton Flight Systems is now eligible to apply to the FAA for responsibility for multiple aspects of future certification projects, minimising the time and expense required for any of these activities.

The Sky-Y, an unmanned surveillance aerial vehicle, belonging to the MALE (Medium Altitude Long Endurance) class, made by **Alenia Aeronautica** has made a consecutive eight-hour flight in Vidsel, Sweden, setting this way the endurance continental record for an aircraft of this class of over-one-tonne weight.



In 2005, a jury in Grimes County, Texas, found the **Lycoming** engines division of Providence, RI liable for fraud, and ordered the company to pay approximately \$96M to Navasota, Texas-based Interstate Southwest Ltd. The case revolved around a number of small airplane engine failures that occurred when the airplanes' crankshafts broke in flight. Between 2000 and 2002, there were 24 failures and 12 deaths in Cessna, Piper and other airplanes equipped with Lycoming engines. Interstate Southwest supplied Lycoming with the crankshaft forgings for those engines.

Though Lycoming blamed Interstate for the failures, testing by Interstate's legal team showed the trouble was a defect in Lycoming's own design for the crankshafts, and the jury agreed. The jury also found Lycoming committed fraud on Interstate, and awarded Interstate nearly \$10M in actual damages and another \$86M in exemplary damages.

In its decision the recent Court of Appeal case upheld the jury's finding that the crankshaft failures were caused solely by a defect in Lycoming's design, and also held that the contract provision under which Lycoming sought indemnity was unenforceable. The court set aside the damages award, however, holding that the damages Interstate sustained as a result of Lycoming's fraud were not recoverable under Texas law.

**WESCAM** has announced today the delivery of MX®-20 electro-optical and infrared (EO/IR) imaging turrets to Lockheed Martin for its tethered aerostat system programme.

Lockheed Martin's tethered aerostat systems are equipped with MX-20 imaging turrets and other sensors to provide continuous surveillance, detection, identification and communications capabilities for US forces worldwide. Lockheed Martin assembles and tests the integrated aerostats, sensors, ground stations and mooring systems at its business in Akron, Ohio. Fully equipped with an EO/IR imaging capability, the MX-20 will be a key element in support of stability and support (SASO) operations worldwide. [www.wescam.com](http://www.wescam.com)

**DART Aerospace Ltd.**, has continued to seek EASA approvals on its extensive range of products. Most, if not all, products already carry US FAA and Canadian certification but extending this to EASA has major advantages for company development.

The latest items to receive EASA approval are their Cargo Cabin Floor Protectors for Bell 205A/A-1/205B/212/412/412EP model aircraft. DART's protectors are constructed of impact resistant, durable aerospace grade plastic that will not warp or crack from extremes of heat or cold and are designed to provide lightweight durable protection for cabin honeycomb floors.

These Floor Protectors are CNC cut for a superior fit and fasten securely to the cabin floor. They come in multiple piece sets which allow for easy installation and removal.



In addition DART's 3 Point Inertia Reel Shoulder Harness Kits and their 4 Point Shoulder Harness Kits for the Bell 205A/A1, 205B, 212, 214B/B1, 412/412EP model aircraft have also been approved.

DART'S 3-Point harness kits are available in two different styles. The Integrated Kit (shoulder harness joined to lap belt) has been specifically designed for rappel operations and has a single point quick release mechanism, while the Independent Kit (shoulder harness separates from lap belt) incorporates a distinctive large metal to metal push button release mechanism.

DART'S latest 4-Point Shoulder Harness Kit provides left and right shoulder straps as well as a replacement lap belt that features a secure 4 point metal to metal lever-style buckle arrangement for all passenger seating positions.

DART Helicopter Services distributes more than 1300 aftermarket products to over 120 countries. For further information, please call N. American Sales 1 (800) 556 4166 or 1 (613) 632 3336 or Int'l Sales 1 (246) 420 7282 [sales@darthelicopterservices.com](mailto:sales@darthelicopterservices.com)



3 POINT INTEGRATED SHOULDER HARNESS KIT

Surveillance experts **Enterprise Control Systems Ltd** had double cause for celebration as it received the Queen's Awards for Enterprise and unveiled its new state-of-the-art Technology Park.

Northamptonshire's Lord Lieutenant, Lady Juliet Townsend LVO, presented the coveted award to managing director Colin Bullock before unveiling a plaque that also marked the opening of the new centre that will house most of the company's 57 staff.

The new Technology Park, in converted farm buildings in the village of Wappenham, near Towcester, has been developed in response to the growth of the firm that won the Queen's Award for its work in COFDM systems, highly specialised encrypted digital video transmission systems.

The equipment is used in police helicopters, transmitting images from surveillance cameras to officers on the ground, as well as in military and security applications. The authorities in Beijing will use the equipment during the Olympic Games next year.

Enterprise Control Systems staff, customers and suppliers were invited to attend the presentation and guests were given a tour of the new premises before the official ceremony began.

Speaking at the ceremony, Colin Bullock said: "This is a day for everyone at Enterprise Control Systems, for the staff in recognition of their hard work and dedication in making the company a success and being part of something that really matters.

"And also for our suppliers and customers for their part in making the company a success in a field that genuinely helps to save lives." [JH]



Colin Bullock, MD of Enterprise Control Systems, receives the Queen's Award for Enterprise from Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, Lady Juliet Townsend, LVO.



ASIA PACIFIC CHINA POLICE 2008

第四届中国国际警用装备展览会

Beijing Exhibition Center, China

16-19 April 2008



On November 13 last **Diamond Airborne Sensing** GmbH has delivered the first DA42 Multi-Purpose Platform (MPP) in serial production to RIEGL Laser Measurement Systems GmbH. RIEGL plans to use this aircraft as a customer demonstrator for aerial surveying via laser scanning and as a prototype for testing and continued development of laser technology.

The two market leaders, RIEGL, located in Horn, Austria and Diamond Aircraft Industries located in Wiener Neustadt, Austria, brought together their know-how in aerial laser scanning and aviation to develop the only complete airborne laser scanning system (aircraft with integrated scanner) on the market.

This highly modern aircraft outfitted with an integrated laser scanner has already surveyed areas in Lower Austria, the entire city of Vienna, and continual laser scanning missions outside of Austria with plans for further projects already on the table. One of the main businesses of Diamond Airborne Sensing remains the marketing of complete systems for aerial surveying. The level of interest in this sector is very high and the company continues to receive orders.

Laser scanning technology is a new and highly accurate method of surveying and it is applied in fields such as catastrophe prevention and flood, avalanche, landslide and rockslide area mapping. This revolutionary technology is also applied in the planning and building of highways, railways, pipelines, and power lines.

Both companies expect worldwide sales of surveying aircraft to reach up to 100 aircraft per year. The interested parties are surveying companies, who are switching from traditional terrestrial surveying to aerial surveying or surveying companies, who organise with great difficulty their own aircraft with integrated surveying equipment. The companies RIEGL and Diamond are in high-demand for the distribution of turn-key, complete surveying aircraft.

The use of Diamond aircraft as a surveillance aircraft for reconnaissance missions is also in high-demand, as every DA42 MPP can be easily transformed from a surveying aircraft into a reconnaissance aircraft by exchanging the surveying equipment with a camera system and vice versa.

**Rolls-Royce** has announced plans to invest in two new aero engine facilities in Singapore and in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the United States. The Company had previously announced that it was considering possible locations in Asia and the US.

The decision to locate the new facilities in the US and Singapore has been driven by three strategic considerations: the attractions of locating major facilities close to customers in two of the largest and fastest growing aerospace markets in the world. The total investment in these two new facilities amounts to US\$300M (£150M) over the next five years.

The Singapore facility will be located in an Aerospace Park at Seletar in the north of Singapore and will be fully operational by the end of 2009. It will employ up to 330 people depending on customer demand and will receive financial support from the Singapore Economic Development Board.

The new facility in the Commonwealth of Virginia will be located in Prince George County and will assemble and test the RB282, the engine selected in June by Dassault to power its new super midsize business jet and potentially the first in a family of small engines for the corporate and regional jet market. More than 90 percent of corporate aircraft are manufactured in the US, which is today the most significant market for these products.

The development and production proving programmes for the RB282 will be undertaken in

the UK at recently completed facilities in Bristol.

Rolls-Royce is a global company. It employs 38,000 people across 50 countries, with 15,000 or 40 percent located outside the UK. Of its firm and announced order book of US\$70 billion (£35 billion) at June 2007, around 90 percent relates to orders secured outside the UK. For further information on Rolls-Royce, visit [www.rolls-royce.com](http://www.rolls-royce.com)

For the first time Nantes, France based **SIREHNA** will exhibit at LIMA MARITIME 2007 in Langkawi in Malaysia, its range of products for naval, defense and security applications. From the December 4-8 2007 they will be on booth no. A25 in hall A.

On its way to Malaysia the company will have exhibited in the maritime sector, MARINTEC CHINA 2007, in Shanghai November 27-30.

The company exhibits include an Unmanned Surface Vessel, a Dynamic Positioning System, an innovative anti-roll Moving Mass Stabilisation System and ELYTRE, a micro UAV already in service with the Police Nationale in France. [sirehna@sirehna.com](mailto:sirehna@sirehna.com)  
[www.sirehna.com](http://www.sirehna.com)

**Peli Products** has introduced a new watertight, crushproof storage system for EMS professionals to protect, store and organise medical gear while transporting it safely.

The new EMS Kits include a padded divider set offering cushioned protection for fragile medical equipment. These nylon dividers, with Velcro® sides, enable flexible and changeable configuration of internal compartments to suit the contents perfectly. The lid organiser features transparent storage pockets for easy accessibility and inventory of vital equipment.

Peli EMS Kits fit the mid range Peli cases; 1500, 1550 and 1600 sizes. They are priced in the UK at £186.16 for the 1500 case and kit, £247.76 for the 1550 version and £293.96 for the 1600 case with EMS kit (prices exclude VAT).



Flight Helmets Australia/Asia-Pacific as the official MSA **Gallet Aeronautic** Products distributor for South Africa in conjunction with their South African representative Sun Solutions have announce that the South Africa Police Service (SAPS) has selected the MSA Gallet LH250 flight helmet system to become the new standard aeronautic helmet of the South African Police Air Wing, replacing the Alpha helmet.

The MSA Gallet LH250 dual visor helmet has selected in a tender competition contested by Helmet Integrated Systems with the Alpha Eagle and L'Otique Scientifique with the Elno helmet.

The new contract confirms MSA Gallet as the sole supplier for aeronautic helmets to the SAPS and the LH250 will equip all SAPS Air Wing crews throughout South Africa. [www.flighthelmets.com.au](http://www.flighthelmets.com.au)



**AgustaWestland** has successfully completed the qualification flight testing of the new generation BERP IV AW101 main rotor blades. The new technology blades will enter opera-



**PRAGUE 25-27 APRIL 2008 >>>**  
THE AVIATION EXHIBITION IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

tional service in early 2008 on the UK's Royal Air Force fleet of AW101 Merlin Mk.3A helicopters.

The BERP IV program commenced in 2000 with a technology selection and integration phase leading to the design and manufacturing phase in 2002. The blades first flew in September 2006 and have now completed a 13 month flight test programme during which the AW101 was flown at speeds up to 198 knots and at altitudes of 13,000 ft. Aircraft fitted with BERP IV blades have also been flown at weights up to 16,500 kg - 1,900 kg over the normal Merlin gross weight and 900 kg over the current AW101 maximum gross weight.

The BERP IV main rotor blades have now been cleared for production and manufactured by AgustaWestland within six months of a contract award by the MoD to support an Urgent Operational Requirement (UOR) for increased hot and high lift capability on the AW101 Merlin Mk 3A helicopters. The blades can also be directly retrofitted to other AW101 variants as a direct replacement for the existing blades.



**Chelton Flight Systems** has announced that it has reached agreement to purchase S-TEC Corporation from Meggitt plc for a cash consideration of US\$38m on a debt and cash-free basis payable on completion. The purchase is anticipated to complete before the year end, subject to regulatory approval.

S-TEC designs, certifies, and manufactures autopilots for general aviation aircraft, ranging from small, single-engined to light commuter aircraft. Based at Mineral Wells Airport in Texas, USA, S-TEC has a workforce of 180 people, including many skilled avionics engineers who are capable of supporting the development of Cobham products.

**Apical Industries Inc.**, has received EASA approval of their Liferaft Kit for AW139 model aircraft. The Liferaft Kit has been previously approved by both the FAA and Transport Canada.

The Apical Liferaft Kit is composed of two externally mounted Liferaft Pod Assemblies and a Liferaft Inflation Reservoir with a mechanical activation system. The Liferaft Pod Assemblies consists of an aluminum mounting structure, a fabric top cover, carbon fiber bottom cover, a 10 man reversible liferaft and an integrated passenger step.

The 10 man Reversible Liferaft consists of a twin tube design, a canopy and a survival kit. Both liferafts are inflated with a single Liferaft Reservoir Assembly. The Reversible Liferaft also has a 15-man overload capacity and meets all the TS0-C70a requirements. The Apical Liferrafts are deployed using the mechanical Liferaft inflation system consisting of two cockpit mounted T-Handle levers which are mounted along the pilot and co-pilot's door frame, and one T-Handle mounted on the passenger compartment subfloor which is easily accessible through the access panel.



Berlin International Air Show (ILA 2008)  
Berlin Brandenburg International Airport  
27 May-1 June 2008

The focal point  
of aerospace.

# ACCIDENTS & INCIDENTS

**30 August 2007 Eurocopter BK117C2/EC145 G-MPSC.** Metropolitan Police. On applying collective to commence a lift into the hover at Lippitts Hill, Essex, the collective lever was felt to be restricted. The lift was abandoned and inspection showed that a torch had been placed with the wider part of the torch in the forward clip of its holder, causing the clip to foul the manual release cable on the underside of the collective. The torch was stowed correctly and the flight continued. [CAA]

**12 September 2007 Eurocopter EC135T2 G-PSNI.** Police Service of Northern Ireland ASU. The *Nitesun searchlight metal bracket/plate separated on landing. The metal bracket/plate found under fuselage during post flight inspection had detached from cooling fan intake of the searchlight. Nitesun fan cover intact no damage found.* [CAA]

**1 October 2007 Eurocopter EC145 N145LF.** Air ambulance of UMass [University of Massachusetts] Memorial Life Flight in Worcester, Massachusetts operated by Air Methods. A contracted landscaper for the hospital removed sod from an area directly in front and below the helipad without department approval. Another aircraft from a neighboring program were doing a backup flight. The visiting aircraft was on final to the hospital pad when they experienced a partial brown out situation due to the blowing dirt and dust. The pilot did not lose orientation or sight of the ground and landed without incident or damage.

The hospital grounds crew were immediately notified and subsequently wetted the area at least twice a day until area was again suitable for helicopter operations. [Concern]

**7 October 2007 Eurocopter BK117C1 G-OEMT** East Anglian Air Ambulance. Main rotor blade struck telephone cable as the helicopter came into land in a confined space at Honington. One blade marked but no discernable damage found. [CAA]

**29 October 2007 Eurocopter BK117** Air ambulance of Lehigh Valley Hospital – MedEvac of Allentown, PA. operated by Air Methods. Involved in a bird strike incident whilst traveling at approximately 1400 ft AGL when it encountered a flock of birds. Two birds penetrated the aircraft; the first broke through front wind screen and second broke through rear door (pilot side) window. The bird that struck the front of the aircraft penetrated the cockpit compartment midline to the aircraft just above the throttles. The impact forced both throttles into the idle position. This caused the aircraft to lose power to the engines. The pilot immediately placed the aircraft into an autorotation preparing for an emergency landing. A Mayday notification was sent out. The pilot identified the cause of the power loss and advanced the throttles to the fly position. He recovered the aircraft and landed in an open parking lot. At a Hamburg shopping mall.

Post flight investigation revealed the aircraft sustained significant bird strikes with two penetrating the passenger compartments with great force. All crew members were wearing helmets and the two personnel up front had their clear visors down. This protected them from additional injury (and distraction). [Concern]

**29 October 2007 Bell 430 N431UM.** Air ambulance of UMHS - Survival Flight of Ann Arbor, Michigan operated by CJ Systems Aviation Group. Whilst flying at 3,000 feet and 145 knots en-route to the University of Michigan. The pilot had just turned off the autopilot system, performed a before-landing check, and initiated an approach to the hospital. During the approach, a loud impact indicated that something had struck the front of the helicopter. The pilot continued the approach to the hospital. After shut down, an initial inspection of the aircraft indicated a bird strike to the center post between the co-pilot and pilot windshield. No damage was noted. [Concern]

**29 October 2007 MDHI MD500E N558CP.** Columbus Police. The police helicopter with engine problems made an emergency landing on a peninsula on the Scioto River near downtown Columbus. The MD landed on its side in the soft ground near the river in the area of a police impound lot. The crew Sgt. Ed Daniher, the pilot, and officer Bob Benson were on a routine patrol flight when they noticed smoke outside a window and saw it to be engine failure.

The recovery of the helicopter from the remote and muddy crash site was undertaken using a Ohio Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter.

**30 October 2007 Cessna 550 N814AM.** Air ambulance of Mayo MedAir Medical Transport AirMed International LLC based Rochester, Minnesota. The flight from Rapid City, South Dakota to St. Paul, Minnesota was on the approach. When the pilots lowered the landing gear prior to landing at St. Paul, they heard and felt the gear come down normally, but received no gear down and locked confirmation lights. They completed the landing gear will not extend checklist. After performing many other checks they felt confident it was an indication problem. They conferred with maintenance and the chief pilot and the aircraft diverted to the longer runway at Rochester. An uneventful landing was performed. Post flight inspection confirmed the landing gear indicator lights were malfunctioning.

**4 November 2007 Eurocopter AS365N3 N896LL.** Air ambulance of Life Lion Critical Care Transport, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, PA. While en-route to Hershey Medical Center with an eight minute ETA the medical crew energised a light over the patient. The light burned brightly followed by a "pop" and flash with coincident flame emitting from the light housing. The housing was immediately covered with a medical blanket to extinguish the flame and protect the patient from a dislodged lens and pieces of broken bulb. The aircraft was landed at Hershey Medical Center and patient disembarked without further incident. Post event investigation revealed that a 24vlt halogen bulb had been replaced with a 12vlt halogen bulb creating an over heat and subsequent failure of the bulb.

**11 November 2007 Bombardier Lear Jet 25 N600GM.** Air ambulance of AIRLIFE Denver operated by International Jet Aviation. On take off from Centennial Airport (APA), Englewood, Colorado en-route for an inter-facility transport, with the primary/high-risk OB team on board, Lear Jet 600GM made an emergency landing due to illumination of the left engine fire warning light. [Concern]

**12 November 2007 Bell 212** Royal Thai Police Forward Command. Two pilots and a crew were feared drowned after the helicopter crashed into a reservoir in Thailand's southern Yala Province whilst en-route to pick up Assistant Police Commissioner-General Pol. Lt. Gen. Adul Saengsingkaew in bad weather. Three crew members managed to swim ashore after the crash and suffered minor injuries.

The dead were the two pilots, Pol. Lt-Col. Prasarn Musikul and Pol. Capt. Pichet Kham-ai, and crew member, Pol. Sgt-Maj. Lertchai Suwanno.

The second officer piloting of the ill-fated helicopter Pol. Capt. Pichet Kham-ai was posthumously promoted to the rank of colonel following his death.

**13 November 2007 Agusta A109E N1UW.** Air Ambulance of Airlift Northwest, Arlington, Washington operated by CJ Systems Aviation Group. Helicopter made an emergency landing in a field about 6 miles west of Interstate 5. A pilot and two nurses were on board.

The aircraft had been dispatched to pick up a patient at Jefferson Community Health in Port Townsend, Washington. The crew of one pilot and two flight nurses were on board the aircraft when the the Agusta was struck by severe vibration found to be caused by the partial failure of a main rotor blade tip cap. The crew made Mayday calls to both approach control and Airlift Northwest during an emergency decent in a field near Stanwood, Washington, approximately 6 miles west of US Interstate 5. Due to vibration in the flight controls, the pilot did not remove his hand from the collective to actuate the landing gear selector and landed gear up. [Media/Concern]

**14 November 2007 MDHI MD520N N501HP.** Honolulu Police Dept. The helicopter suffered a hole in the main rotor and a scratch on the tail cone after striking the cable of a static balloon. The police helicopter was engaged in pursuit of burglary, theft suspect when



it hit the ropes when flying at 500 feet in Waipahu. It was reported that the crew of three was aware of the hazard but became distracted by the operational task. During the chase they were looking down and didn't see it. The ropes from the balloon wrapped around the helicopter's main rotor and the pilot made an emergency landing at the police academy not far from where the incident occurred dragging about 300 feet of rope. [Media/FAA]

**14 November 2007 MDHI MD900 D-HPNB.** Police of Niedersachsen [Lower Saxony], Hannover. Helicopter severely damaged in a roll-over after a 'run-on' landing after an un-stated technical problem arose as the aircraft took off from Hanover Langenhagen. One report suggested that directional control was lost. The helicopter is reported to have landed at high speed on its skids. Although the 7-year old craft only appeared to have its tail boom torn off initial reports spoke of it being a write-off. Three officers aboard were reported to be lightly injured. [Media]

**21 November 2007 Denel SA330 Oryx.** South African Air Force. The helicopter was carrying nineteen people, including fourteen South African police officers and five air force officials on a normal patrol when it crashed near the border with Lesotho in the southern part of the Free State province. A South African police officer, Constable Colin Mervin William, 32, who was stationed at the Bisho police station in the Eastern Cape died and eight others were seriously injured. [media]

## LETTER—*Front page story*

I read with interest your November 2007 issue, and congratulate your staff on another job well done. All publications which inform and educate on police aviation are very welcome and beneficial to the industry!

I would like to offer additional information regarding the *Law Enforcement Aviation Coalition* ("LEAC"), our not-for-profit organization which operates four helicopters known as "AIR-ONE". Your November 2007 issue included a news brief about a Wisconsin Sheriff announcing availability of this service, however correctly stated the service is offered throughout the Southern portion of Wisconsin and Northern portion of Illinois (not only the Western part of Wisconsin as stated in the article).

Also, to correct the mention of aircraft we operate; We have three Bell OH-58C helicopters, which were obtained from the US Dept. of Defence through their surplus equipment program. The helicopters were given to three area law enforcement agencies in Illinois, but are operated and funded by LEAC. We raise the funds, provide all fuel, parts, maintenance, insurance, hangar, etceteras, and train and provide all pilots and tactical flight officers. All TFO's and most pilots are sworn law enforcement officers, and everyone involved with the organization is volunteering their off-time for training and missions. (we now have over 50 volunteers involved!)

LEAC also has raised the funds necessary to refurbish these helicopters, and equip them with mission specific equipment. Currently we have two OH-58's fully refurbished and equipped, and the third ship is just beginning the refurbishment process. This includes new paint, interior work, avionics, high skids, etceteras. As funding becomes available we will add SX16 NightSun search light and FLIR-Ultra 8000.

The fourth helicopter we operate is a privately owned Bell 430, lent to us for limited use in daytime missions. As this ship has retractable gear, it has no searchlight or FLIR capabilities and is used strictly as a daytime observation platform. We do not operate or otherwise utilize any other privately owned helicopters as stated in the article.

For additional information about LEAC and the AIR-ONE program, please visit our website at [www.AirSupport.org](http://www.AirSupport.org).

Thank you again for your excellent coverage of the industry.

Best regards,

**Mike Bitton**

Director of Operations, Law Enforcement Aviation Coalition, Inc., AIR-ONE Helicopter Program  
[www.AirSupport.org](http://www.AirSupport.org)





**DUBAI 2008 HELISHOW**

The third edition of Dubai Helishow - the International Helicopter Technology & Operations Exhibition

11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008

East Hall, Dubai Airport Expo, Dubai, U.A.E.

Online Registration: [www.dubaihelishow.com](http://www.dubaihelishow.com)

## PEOPLE

On October 15, 2007, the **International Association of Chief's of Police** presented its Bell Helicopter Textron "Excellence in Law Enforcement Aviation" awards at its annual conference in New Orleans, LA. This year, a total of 23 nominations were received and judged by members of the IACP Aviation Committee Awards Sub-Committee. The award categories were Individual Achievement, Small Agency Award (four or less aircraft) and Large Agency Award (more than four aircraft). The winners were:

- Individual Achievement: **Captain Kurt Frisz** of the Saint Louis County (MO) Police Department.
- Small Agency Award: **Alachua County Sheriff's Office and Gainesville PD Joint Aviation Unit** in mid-Florida.
- Large Agency Award: **San Diego PD** in California.

In addition to the above awards, the IACP honoured committee member **Chief Timothy Swanson** of the Countryside (IL) Police Department for his hard work and diligence in single-handedly initiating the Illinois Regional Air Support Service for the Chicago Metropolitan area. The committee also honoured Mr. **David Tollet** whom recently retired from the IACP. Tollet served as the staff liaison for the Aviation Committee and was instrumental in the achievements of the committee. Each recipient was presented their award by IACP Aviation Committee Chair Chief Donald L. Shinnamon (Holly Hill, FL), Mr. Paul Pitts (Bell Helicopter Textron) and William Brown (Director, DEA Aviation).

**Pilatus Aircraft Ltd** has approved two new additions to the Management Board in the wake of retirements. Fredy Glarner who has been with the company 27 years is to be the new Head of Manufacturing and Markus Bucher the new Head of Aircraft Assembly. Mr Bucher has held various managerial posts since 1986. Over the past ten years he has very successfully built up and expanded the customer support service in the Government Aviation Business. Both candidates are Pilatus employees of many years, with a proven track record. They will take up their posts in the New Year.



Fredy Glarner



Markus Bucher

## DIARY

**4-5 December 2007** ISNR (International Security National Resilience) London, conference and exhibition at Olympia.

**24-26 February 2008** Heli-Expo 2008. Houston, Texas. To be held in the George R Brown Convention Center. [www.visithoustontexas.com](http://www.visithoustontexas.com) [www.rotor.org](http://www.rotor.org)

**2-5 March 2008** ISNR Abu Dhabi, which will be held in the city's International Exhibition Centre. ISNR Abu Dhabi will incorporate the former Security and Safety Middle East, Infosecurity and APTS Middle East exhibitions, in response to requests by exhibitors to streamline the region's security events calendar.

**5-6 March 2008**. Avionics Expo 07 ran successfully in March and the 6<sup>th</sup> edition will take place in the city centre location, PTA - Passenger Terminal Amsterdam.

Avionics 07 saw the development of the Military and COTS/Embedded conference, which attracted many government and military officials and provoked interest in the COTS/Embedded community. The 2008 event will include an UAV element. Civil Conference <http://www.avionics-event.com/>

Before we leave 2007 and the Northern Hemisphere plunges into winter—PAN offers a visual reminder of warmer times. The Paris Air Show.

A report on this, other shows and other resources can be found on the Police Aviation News website [typically at least 12 months back issues are available for free download from the site].

Its worth going back into the archive just in case you missed something along the way.

