

Police Aviation News

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PAR



**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE UPGRADE
A.B.L.E. UNDER THREAT
MORE CHILDREN'S AMBULANCE WOES
CHINA SALVAGE GROWS**

O.P.P.

PAN—Police Aviation News is published monthly by POLICE AVIATION RESEARCH, 7 Windmill Close, Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3BQ UK. Contacts: **Main:** +44 1992 714162 **Cell:** +44 7778 296650 **Skype:** BrynElliott **E-mail:** editor@policeaviationnews.com

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LAW ENFORCEMENT

BRAZIL

SAO PAULO: The Military Police of São Paulo signed an agreement with Turbomeca (Safran group) for the retrofit of its fleet of single-engine helicopters over a period of two years. They will convert their AS350 B helicopters, powered with Arriel 1B engines, into AS350 B2 helicopters, powered with Arriel 1D1 engine.

The work is intended to be complete in time for the fleet to have a common standard by the time of the World Cup in 2014. The retrofit process will see 21 Arriel 1D1 in service by the end of 2013, easing the maintenance significantly.

The Arriel 1D1 engine features a very simple design, with a reduced number of parts and a modular design for easy maintenance. It offers a TBO (Time Between Overhaul) of 3,600 hours and a take-off power of 732 shp, 14% more powerful than the Arriel 1B.

The Police Military of São Paulo, the largest state police force in Brazil, operates a fleet of 21 AS 350 and one EC 135 helicopters, all of which are powered by Turbomeca.

CANADA

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL: Back in February it was reported that Ontario Provincial Police [OPP] were on the point of adding the Eurocopter EC135P2+ to their fleet and replacing existing AS355F2 helicopters.

The official handover of the two new OPP EC135, C-FOPP and C-GKHZ, was on May 27 and at the ceremony at Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) General Headquarters in Orillia Commissioner Chris Lewis accepted the delivery of the two EC135 helicopters replacing the Twin Star's acquired in 1991.

The new helicopters are equipped to be full Single Pilot Instrument Flight Rules (SPIFR) capable with a Central Panel Display System (CPDS), a Flight Control Display System (FCDS) and an Automatic Flight Control System (AFCS). They have full Night Vision Goggle (NVG) compatibility; can be configured to carry six passengers as well as the two pilots when not carrying the FLIR dual camera pod [8500] and SX-16 searchlight. Tactical Flight Officer (TFO) stations are fitted front and back and there is a cargo hook with a 2,860 lb. capacity

The OPP has owned and operated two helicopters in its fleet since 1974 to support fulfilling of its provincial mandate which includes providing support for specialized teams, surveillance, drug eradication, searches, suspect apprehension pursuits and regional traffic and crime initiatives. Approximately 65 per cent of all OPP helicopter missions deal with search and rescue operations. The OPP helicopters are based in Orillia and Sudbury respectively. Over the past 20 years, OPP pilots have logged a combined total flying time of approximately 20-thousand hours on the retiring helicopters. The OPP also has a fixed wing fleet consists of a Pilatus PC12/45 based at the Thunder Bay Airport and a Cessna C206T based at the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport. These are operated by eleven full-time pilots, three part-time pilots, three maintenance engineers and six part-time Tactical Flight Officers mainly within Ontario, although the fixed-wing aircraft can be assigned to missions anywhere in North America. Overall the OPP fleet accrues approximately 2,500 – 3,000 hours of flight time annually. [OPP/HeliHub]



CHINA

HENAN: A new turbine powered Robinson R66 has been noted delivered to China. No official announcement has been made relating to this historical event but the helicopter is registered in the police series of marks which are allocated to Henan Province. The R66 is marked G-411201. [HeliHub]

SHENZHEN: Early last month an official handover ceremony was held between Shenzhen Police, Avic International and AgustaWestland for the formal acceptance of the second police helicopter of Shenzhen. The AW139 will help enhance the security protection and fulfil the task of winch rescues, fire-fighting, low-level patrol and major event surveillance offering camera sensors and video image transmission.

The AW139 will work alongside their first helicopter, an AW109E G-440201, delivered in 2004 and will enhance 24/7 availability. To date the Shenzhen Police AW109 has flown a modest 773 hours in the six years it has been operated and that included coverage of the Olympic Torch Relay in Guangdong Province in 2008.

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GERMANY

THURLINGEN: The accountants are looking for a few missing millions in Erfurt. The problem surrounds an EC145 bought a few years back but the matter has only just become a matter of concern. At the moment no-one has worked out if the books have a hole in them or whether it is just a case that the role equipment was not clearly featured in the original estimates.

The Polizeihubschrauberstaffel based at Flughafen Erfurt, bought a new Eurocopter EC145 in 2006 and it was delivered as D-HHEB in mid-2007. Since then it has been upgraded with an Advanced Integrated Mission Station (AIMS), developed by ESG but was otherwise a fairly basic airframe.

Last month the web site MDR Thuringen ran a story relating to the purchase of the EC145 with the accountants somewhat belatedly realizing that too much had been borrowed against the police helicopter. It said the State Parliament was deceived and it had cost them around one million Euros extra in interest as a result.

Until other reasons for the extra finance are found it seems that substantially higher credit was received for the purchase of the EC145 than was necessary and that was costing the Thüringer taxpayer dearly. The loan sum received in 2006 in the private bank GEFA, amounted to 10.7M Euro where the figure quoted by Eurocopter for the helicopter was around a third less at 6.88M. [MDRT]

Integration PTA in EC 145	ESG	22-06-4-8-88
Integration BO105	ESG	22-06-4
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INDIA

JHARKHAND: The police's only helicopter grounded since January and now awaiting repairs at a Bangalore hanger has finally received the attention of the Jharkhand government, which is setting up its own team of maintenance engineers since manufacturer HAL has refused help. [Telegraph]

JAPAN

NATIONAL: Japan has a central buying policy for its police units but that does not mean only a single type is purchased.

In recent months Japanese police air units have received a number of Eurocopter EC135T2+ helicopters and others examples of the A109.

Under some pressure for details from PAN Eurocopter has stated that an order by the National Police Agency resulted in deliveries to six police prefectures, in 2008-09 three aircraft were delivered and four a/c in 2010/11. Eurocopter expect that another 4 to 6 prefectures will accept deliveries in 2012-14.

The specific deliveries this year have been JA110K c/n 0962 delivered to Fukui Police Aviation Unit in Ehime; JA02KP c/n 0966 to the Kouchi Police Aviation Unit; JA110M c/n 0961 to the Miyazaki Police Aviation Unit and JA110T c/n 0967 delivered to the Tokushima Police Aviation Unit, based on the JMSDF Tokushima base. [HH/EC]

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NETHERLANDS

KLPD: With the integration of its new helicopter fleet of EC135 and AW139s complete the service is now looking to acquire a new replacement for the single engine Cessna fixed wing element of their fleet. [KLPD/PAVCon]

SPAIN

NATIONAL POLICE: Spain's National Police have thwarted the sale of a number of helicopters and fighter parts to Iran and Venezuela. A total of eight arrests were made, five Spanish businessmen and three Iranian nationals who had travelled to Spain to formalise the deal.

Export of this type of equipment to Iran is under strict UN control. The helicopters and spares were hidden in Madrid and Barcelona warehouses owned by the business consortium including the five Spaniards now being held in custody. When the Iranian buyers arrived in Spain to complete the documentation and conclude the sale the arrests were made. Spanish Police have seized nine Bell 212s, spares, document and computer hard drives, including six 212s in Sabadell (Barcelona) and three in Navas del Rey (Madrid). A police video issued shows at least eleven Bell 212s and five JetRanger's, each stripped down to the frame, and a quantity of Rolls-Royce 250-C20B engines.

Helihub analysis of the serial numbers on the noses of the B212s suggest that they were originally in service with the Israeli Defence Force, a batch which was retired around 2004. The JetRanger's could also have been from the same source. [Helihub]

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

ABU DHABI: Since 2009 the AD Police Air Wing has been running police training courses for their pilots and aircrew of the Abu Dhabi Police (ADP) Air Wing. The courses take the best international police air support techniques and refine them for operations in the unique environment of the United Arab Emirates. The instructors involved are mainly drawn from the United Kingdom and the United States, former senior police aircrew.

Five members of the Abu Dhabi Police Air Wing (ADPAW) visited units in the UK recently. The five, accompanied by consultants from Lexington Security Group consultants, included Brigadier Ali Al Mazroui and two newly qualified pilots with the unit who have just been through a Tactical Flight Officers course in Abu Dhabi and were able to see first hand how the UK undertake observer operations and how the crews work together.

The ten-day visit took in the three EC145 helicopter equipped Metropolitan Police Air Support Unit at Lippitts Hill north of London and the EC135P2+ equipped Cleveland Police on Teesside in the North East. The latter is equipped with an evolution of the camera system used by ADP Air Wing crews. A little over ten hours operational flying was undertaken with both units.

The visit had 3 main aims: To build on existing relationships between UK and ADP Air Support Units. Brigadier Ali Al Mazroui had the lead on this and would have a personal meeting and discussions with the Commander of the Metropolitan Police ASU, Inspector Phil Whitelaw. To increase the Air Support tactical knowledge and equipment handling skills of selected ADP aircrews by a series of ground lessons and operational flights. To give the selected ADP crews exposure to a wide array of world class operational equipment and Air Support techniques. [ADPAW]



Above : Inspector Phil Whitelaw [Metro ASU] exchanges gifts with Brigadier Ali Al Mazroui at Lippitts Hill. Later in the visit, one of the ADPAW visitors is seen with Tony Welch [Cleveland Police] and former UK police pilot Jim Martin, now a trainer with the ADPAW.



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UNITED KINGDOM

CLEVELAND: Tyne Tees TV news broke the news and Cleveland Police confirmed it – certain Cleveland Police Authority members are being investigated for potential corruption by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Dave McLuckie the Chairman of the authority is just one of the past and present members who are now under a criminal investigation and he promptly resigned.

It was McLuckie that recently announced that 230 police officers would be made redundant after privatising many civilian posts and a number of Internet sources have been seeking to blacken his name since.

The inquiry is being headed by Warwickshire Police's Chief Constable Keith Birstow and will be conducted by a team from North Yorkshire Police headed by Detective Chief Superintendent Richard Mann.

Recent PFI and air support contracts are allegedly being looked into according to one HQ source.

Editor: In September 2008, the Cleveland Police Authority placed an order for a new helicopter to replace the existing EC135T1 G-NESV. The new helicopter is a Eurocopter EC135 P2i which was part of a bulk purchase of 6 aircraft. The specification of each of these aircraft was designed by bringing experts together from police aviation and procurement. The subsequent aircraft were all then identical which saved costs over the lifetime of all of the aircraft.

Following the acceptance process in December, the aircraft was finally taken on charge during early January 2011.

Cleveland Police have now paid all sums to Eurocopter apart from a small retention portion which will be paid in 12 months time assuming no issues develop. There is the guaranteed trade in for G-NESV of £1M, plus potential profit sharing. Cleveland were awarded a 40% grant towards the purchase of this new helicopter which has been received in full.

All of these movements mirrored the payment transactions undertaken by the other purchasers of the "identical fleet" EC135s and as far as can be seen are wholly above reproach. Similarly the aircraft is still maintained under manufacturers warranty by Eurocopter. On the face of it this leaves only the provision of ground support at Tees Side Airport and the pilotage as areas where air support contract transactions fall outside the normal.

MERSEYSIDE: Merseyside Police (UK) Air Support's helicopter is being scrapped under plans to pool police resources to save money. Police departments in Merseyside, Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Cumbria and North Wales have agreed to collaborate in five areas to cut costs. Four helicopters using four air bases will cover the region. As a result, Merseyside's helicopter (which is the oldest in the fleet) and its air base will be decommissioned.

A regional air support unit will be created and operated from a central location. Margaret Ollershaw, chairman of Cheshire Police Authority, said, "We are all facing the same financial pressures and, in some areas of policing, it makes sense for us to join together to share resources and make savings."



NORTH EAST: The Newcastle International Airport based air support operations has recently launched a new Air Support Unit section on the Northumbria Policewebsite featur-

ing pictures, videos, games and lots of interesting information about the aircraft and the crew. You can find the pages at <http://www.northumbria.police.uk/helicopter> [Chris Clark]

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA: On July 1, the ABLE helicopter operation run by Newport Beach and Costa Mesa ends as a result of Costa Mesa's cost-cutting measures. Assets must be sold and the proceeds split between the two cities. ABLE has been a joint effort between Costa Mesa and Newport Beach since 1996.

Earlier this year when concerns were voiced in the local media the air unit received supportive calls from the local residents reached ABLE Commander Tim Starn offering help to save it.

As a result of pressures from the local residents talks are under way to explore the options with other cities that have helicopters. The O.C. Sheriff's department pays half of the cost of the ABLE hangar and mechanics. So even if Newport can save ABLE, they could lose these contract players.

During this month the options available and being addressed include Newport Beach Police Department running the service themselves and selling time to other agencies or selling the assets to a third party and then leasing them back for operations.

One voice potential saviour figure is David Brooks, vice president of the Newport-Mesa Unified School board. A retired CMPD captain and helicopter pilot with ABLE for more than 20 years, he says the dissolution of ABLE could have a negative effect on the schools in the district - when ABLE started back in the 1970s, it resulted in lower insurance rates for the schools - now rates could skyrocket, resulting in a serious financial impact for the school district.

A businessman is considering buying three helicopters and equipment jointly owned by the Newport Beach and Costa Mesa police departments and selling flight time back to the cities. By not having to pay for the helicopter and sharing flight time with other Orange County cities, Costa Mesa and Newport Beach would be able to continue ABLE.

The anonymous businessman, who lives in Newport Beach's costal area, would rent services out to Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, Irvine, Santa Ana, Garden Grove and Fountain Valley, among other Orange County cities.

The name of the businessman was not released. Sources at both city halls confirmed that the deal was being discussed but it was not possible to gauge how likely it was to go through.

Recently ABLE cost the city of Costa Mesa \$852,090 annually. By cutting the program, and four related officer positions, Costa Mesa might save \$1M annually.

Over in Oakland the grounded police helicopter is being brought back to limited service with the MD500E N510PD being allowed a budget to cover some 200 hours a year. Although it is a significant cut from its previous allowance it is at least operations.

The "Argus One" has stayed inside its hangar at the Oakland Airport's North Field since July 2009, a casualty of police funding cuts.

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NEW YORK: The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office in Syracuse asked county lawmakers to release nearly \$350,000 in funding to keep its helicopter - Bell 206 N407SD – flying after June 30.

It placed the funding for the rest of the year, \$342,123, in a contingency account to be released only if the Sheriff's Office showed substantial progress toward obtaining a commercial license for Air-1 and collecting private donations to defray operating costs.

A commercial license would allow the Sheriff's Office to charge fees for transporting accident victims to hospitals. The Sheriff's Office has transported patients in Onondaga County and surrounding counties for years, but it is not allowed under Federal Aviation Administration rules to charge fees without a commercial license similar to those held by airlines.

The City of New York continues to reassess its future aircraft needs in the wake of the problems with the Bell 412 after the forced landing of one of its fleet.. The re-assessment relates to the whole fleet.

KENTUCKY: Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear announced the eBay auction of two state aircraft in April. For sale were a twin-engine 1975 Piper Navajo and a single-engine 1967 Cessna Skyhawk. They were sold via the Division of Surplus Property's eBay store.

The pair for sale had been used primarily for law enforcement, particularly by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife. An assessment of the state's aircraft fleet showed that they could be sold without hurting the work of the department.

The sale was part of Beshear's ongoing Smart Government Initiative, which he started in January 2010. The program examines state government operations to find ways to save taxpayer dollars and make the government more efficient.

The Office of Procurement Services estimates that \$7.2M has been saved through contract renegotiations and rebidding. [KCOM]



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AIR AMBULANCE

RUSSIA

EMERCOM: Russian Helicopters delivered the new Ka-32A11BC rescue helicopter equipped with a medical module to Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergency Management and Natural Disasters Response (EMERCOM of Russia). The helicopter was delivered under the contract concluded with EMERCOM in 2009 for delivery of five Ka-32A11BC helicopters in medevac configuration and also prepared for fire-fighting equipment installation.

The delivery ceremony took place at the 4th International Safety and Security Exhibition in Moscow last month.



UNITED KINGDOM

EAST ANGLIA: A new Chief Executive has been appointed to lead one of the region's largest and most vital charities.

Tim Page joins the East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA) having most recently worked for charities in London and Birmingham. He arrives with a wealth of knowledge and experience of leading successful teams and has ambitions to make the charity a beacon for others to emulate.

Tim will be based at Cambridge Airport alongside the crew of the EAAA's Anglia Two aircraft.

Meanwhile no news on the engine and a bit held by the Longmint Group. From the Alan Mann Aviation Group web page it has been announced that Nigel Geoffrey Atkinson of Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP and Philip Francis Duffy of MCR were appointed joint administrators of Mann Aviation Group (Engineering) Limited on 10th May 2011. Some positive noises relating to selling off elements of the group have been made but not concluded as PAN went to press.



GREAT NORTH: UK private aviation company Multiflight has been awarded a new five-year contract to manage, crew and maintain the helicopters for the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS). Multiflight has managed, crewed and maintained the GNAAS helicopters since early 2010 and has supplied the charity with two Dauphin Eurocopter AS 365 N2 helicopters.

Steve Borrowdale, Multiflight's Managing Director, said: "Multiflight is delighted to be awarded the new five-year GNAAS contract and to be the company chosen to continue managing, crewing and maintaining the aircraft that the charity has purchased through us, delivering a complete turnkey solution for the customer."

YORKSHIRE: The UK Prime Minister David Cameron has said the Government is not able to change the rules to allow Yorkshire's Air Ambulance the same duty relief on fuel that lifeboats currently enjoy.

Local Member of Parliament Jason McCartney asked the Prime Minister to intervene after questioning why the air ambulance had to pay VAT on its fuel, but the RNLi did not. McCartney raised the issue in the House of Commons after taking part in a charity bike ride to collect funds for Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Like many rules in a modern Europe the national government EU rulemaking takes precedence and although an EU VAT Directive makes an exemption for lifeboats there is no equivalent provision for supplies used by other charities.



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nets UK a national charity with links to NETS NSW, Australia is developing facilities, formerly home to Yorkshire Air Ambulance [YAA], as its operating and Clinical Training Centre. At the head of nets UK is Martin Eede a former CEO with the Yorkshire Air Ambulance and a figurehead with a track record that tends to give greater credence to the operation. The name nets stands for Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Service; the form of the initials varies – sometimes it is capitalised and others not.

The charity is about to tender for its first aircraft which will be specially equipped for children and new-born infants who need to fly to the UK's centre of excellence in children's medicine. Fundraising is underway and as with the earlier Children's Air Ambulance proposals the other air ambulance air charities readily pointing out the lack of need.

If it goes ahead this will be the first such service in the UK and is modelled on the successful experience in Australia where NETS NSW is a vital part of medical care for children.

The HSBC 'Little Angels' appeal has enabled the charity to take on the lease at the former Yorkshire AA base at Sheffield Heliport [formerly Sheffield Airport]. Giving her support is Dame Judy Dench DBE who agreed to be the first Patron.

The Clinical Training Centre will specialise in aero-medical training for paediatricians and claims it has already had enquiries from clinicians in a number of countries across the world wishing to attend courses.

A conference marked the opening of the nets UK Airbase and Clinical Training Centre. Held at the adjacent Aston Hotel, Sheffield on May 19 the Keynote speakers include Dr Andrew Berry, founder of NETS in NSW, Australia and Charles Skeoch of the Scottish Air Ambulance Service.

Held just days before the International conference in Brighton the stated purpose of the conference was to identify, from the international experience, the most effective way forward in developing an aero-medical response for new-born and young children. Until now movement of these groups of patients has been undertaken by land ambulances or regional air ambulances.

In the web and other publicity put out by NETS recently much play is made of Martin Eede's past with YAA. With that and the former YAA base location of the set up Police Aviation News asked YAA whether they had current links with the operation. They were pretty clear about that link....

Statement from Yorkshire Air Ambulance:

"The Yorkshire Air Ambulance is an independent registered Charity which has been saving the lives of people of all ages throughout Yorkshire and the Humber for over 10 years. We would like to clarify that the Yorkshire Air Ambulance (YAA) has no links with NetsUK, nor have we been involved in setting up this new Charity. We are a completely separate and independent organisation. We rely on the continuing generosity of people and business in Yorkshire and the Humber for the funding of each and every one of our very many life

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saving missions.

Mr Martin Eede, (who is now involved with NetsUK), ceased to be employed by us in 2007. At this time, both parties entered into a compromise agreement including confidentiality obligations on both sides, which prevents us making any comments on Mr Eede's recent statements about us and his work whilst he was with us.

Yorkshire's Air Ambulances are the only medical emergency helicopters available every day throughout Yorkshire and the Humber. Both are well equipped to treat and carry sick and injured children and adults alike. Each of our helicopters saves patient transfer to treatment time on a daily basis, in order to help save lives.

Contrary to any claims made, the Yorkshire Air Ambulance helicopters are available for transfer from hospital to hospital, of critically ill patients, including children.

Our helicopters are crewed by highly skilled, very experienced and appropriately trained HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Service) paramedics who are all provided through our longstanding partnership with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust. We also fly with a number of volunteer Doctors. All of our crew, both paramedics and doctors, are fully qualified to treat and look after both injured or sick adults and children alike.

Both of our helicopters are available 7 days a week, 365 days per year.

We continue to provide a state-of-the-art rapid response helicopter emergency medical service across the region every day of every year." [Issued by: Yorkshire Air Ambulance Press Office].

Editor: This 'newborn' organisation revisits a number of issues raised in the past about duplicate specialist children's fundraising in the face of an apparent capability already in place with the multi-task existing air ambulance services across the UK. There are hypothetical additional services – but these require the use of fully night certified hospital helipads that simply do not exist. Overall the need is perceived as so low that no air ambulance charity, health service board or hospital has seen the need to set up the very necessary infrastructure that IFR night transfers would entail.

Air ambulances undertake just a fraction of the ambulance transportations each day. Enquiries in the industry about the need for UK neonatal emergency transfers in any given year met with some blank stares – it seems that the need is so rare that no-one has sought to quantify that need in terms of air transport specifics. The best estimate is that there might be around 100 real emergencies that might attract the consideration of using air transport across the Nation and, if true it might be assumed that the existing air ambulances would take some of them by default even if a specialised unit existed. If it were an emergency it would seem ridiculous to await the arrival of the specialist airframe from another part of the country, potentially hours, to undertake the move. Setting up and staffing a special skills airframe to undertake the as yet unclear need for a fraction of the 100 missions each year is plain uneconomic and likely to have an undue need to pull hard on the heart and purse

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strings of many charity givers. Such an specialist airframe would simple sit on the ground for weeks on end.

There may be an additional need for emergency response to child accident victims but what happens when a Children's air ambulance turns up for a child who turns out to be over age? Is a refusal to carry acceptable?

UNITED STATES

FLORIDA: Air Critical Care, LLC, an Air Ambulance Service headquartered in Punta Gorda, Florida, has met the accreditation standards required by the Better Business Bureau for membership with the organization.

Air Critical Care specialises in worldwide long distance medical transportation. Some of their clients are worldwide travellers that become ill while travelling or patients seeking specialised medical services. Air Critical care provides these worldwide air ambulance service from a network of offices throughout the United States.

BBB Accreditation means Air Critical Care, LLC adheres to very high ethical standards. People know they can trust a company that has made the commitment to live up to the BBB Principles for Trust. [ACC]



PENNSYLVANIA: American Eurocopter has delivered the fourth EC145 to Geisinger Medical Center's Life Flight®. The aircraft is part of an ongoing fleet replacement initiative as the Life Flight program continues to standardise its fleet on the proven and popular EC145 platform.

Geisinger Life Flight has operated Eurocopter aircraft since 1983, when it became the first hospital-based BK117 operator in the world. The BK117 is the successful predecessor to the EC145. In 2005, Life Flight began a fleet replacement and standardisation programme and, after an extensive review of the helicopters available in the market, selected the EC145 as the helicopter to update its fleet. www.geisinger.org



JAPAN: AgustaWestland and Mitsui Bussan Aerospace announced that the Fire and Disaster Management Agency of Japan has signed a contract for an AW139 medium twin helicopter. This aircraft will be used to perform fire fighting, emergency medical service, air rescue and transport missions. The helicopter is due to be delivered in late 2011 and will enter operational service in spring 2012. This AW139 sale follows an order for the same helicopter type by the Saitama Prefecture in January 2011 and continues the success of the AW139 in the Japanese market for fire fighting and disaster relief applications.

FIRE





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SEARCH & RESCUE

CHINA

RESCUE & SALVAGE: Two years ago the Chinese rescue service ordered additional Eurocopter EC225 helicopters to supplement an initial 2007 batch.

Last month the latest delivery airframe B-7156, an EC225LP on transit to China passed through Greece using the ferry registration F-WJXR.

Two new EC225 helicopters will be operated by the China Rescue and Salvage Bureau for SAR missions. They will strengthen the MOT's existing fleet of 10 helicopters and 2 fixed wing aircraft, which are currently operated by 4 flight teams stationed throughout China. [Tony Dunford A-B/Eurocopter]



EGYPT

AgustaWestland have announced that AgustaWestland North America, Inc. was awarded a \$37.8M contract with the US Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) Contracting Center for Foreign Military Sales to the Egyptian Air Force.

AgustaWestland are to provide AW139 helicopters for the Egyptian Air Force's helicopter fleet. Two Pennsylvania-built airframes are to be configured for search and rescue missions; support the US Army in training aircrews; and provide a spare parts package to ensure successful fielding of the aircraft.

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UNITED KINGDOM

UK SAR FORCE: There is still very little cheer associated with the SAR force in Britain so the Ministry of Defence were quick to publicise the air activities of the future king.

The Duke of Cambridge took part in two mountain rescues in the week after his wedding. Prince William was on board an RAF Sea King helicopter from RAF Valley in Anglesey which airlifted a 70-year-old walker in Snowdonia.

The crew took the man, who was said to have had a heart attack, to hospital in Bangor, before they returned to Snowdon to help four men after one of them suffered vertigo.

William's crew attended the first site 2,946ft (898m) up Lliwedd mountain on Wednesday night.

They returned shortly afterwards to rescue the group, thought to be police officers from the West Midlands and in their 20s, up Crib Goch at 3,560ft (1,085m). The men were airlifted from a narrow ridge in an area known as Crib-y-Ddysgyl.

A spokesman from the MoD said: "We can confirm that Rescue 122 from RAF Valley conducted two search and rescue operations on 4 May.

UNITED STATES

PARK SERVICE: On May 12 an AS350B3 helicopter from Denali National Park & Preserve performed a high-altitude rescue on Mt. McKinley of an injured climber, who had broken his leg in a fall near the summit. It was one of the highest rescues recorded on Mt. McKinley.

The AS350 helicopter is provided and operated by TEMSCO Helicopters Inc. from Ketchikan, Alaska, on an exclusive-use contract to the National Park Service (NPS) in Denali National Park & Preserve and is primarily used for mountain rescues. This rescue occurred at 19,833 ft. The summit of Mt. McKinley is at 20,320 ft., and it is known for inclement weather conditions.

The pilot of the AS350 B3 was Andreas Hermansky, a TEMSCO employee, who had flown to the summit on previous occasions under less demanding circumstances, knew that the flight was not going to be routine. It was faced with gusting winds and temperatures well below zero.

TEMSCO (an acronym from the words: Timber, Exploration, Mining, Survey, Cargo Operations) was founded in 1958 in Ketchikan, Alaska. TEMSCO has operated AStars since 1983. It was one of the launch customers for the AS350 B3 in the United States and helped shape the development of the aircraft due to the wide variety of missions the company performs. TEMSCO will have a fourth AS350 B3 delivered at the end of May.



INDUSTRY

Scandinavian Avionics has signed framework agreements with the Norwegian Directorate for Emergency Communication (DNK), a subordinate to The Norwegian Ministry of Justice and the Police, to provide complete TETRA radio terminal upgrades in a significant number of helicopters on 7 different platforms.

They will provide TETRA radio terminals and associated equipment from the British manufacturer Cobham Antenna Systems. In addition, Scandinavian will provide installation and integration of the equipment as well as EASA certification, testing and technical support of the system.

The upgrades come as an addition to the shared radio system in the east of Norway for the Public Safety Agencies and other organizations with civil preparedness responsibilities. A final decision to extend the shared radio system to the rest of the country is still pending from the Norwegian Parliament (Stortinget).

The decision to upgrade the radio terminals was made in the light of an analysis of the current radio systems of the Norwegian fire brigades, the police and the health agencies, which showed that the current radio systems no longer met operational communication requirements in terms of functionality and reliability.

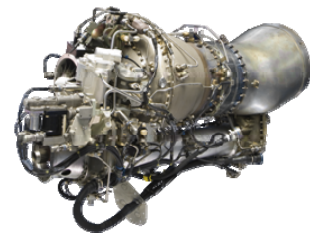
The Directorate for Emergency Communication (DNK) has the responsibility to lead the development of a new digital communication network for emergency and public safety services in Norway. The directorate will further administer the network when it is developed.

A common digital network for emergency and public safety services will contribute to a safer and less vulnerable society. The directorate for Emergency Communication was established April the 1st 2007, and is subordinated to The Ministry for Justice and the Police in Norway.

For more information please visit: www.dinkom.no

The **Turbomeca** (Safran group) Arriel 2D engine, with a take-off power of 950 shp, has been certified by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

The Arriel 2D will power the Eurocopter AS350 B3e helicopter. The first engines entry into service is scheduled in the second half of 2011.



Aeronautical Accessories announced it has exclusive distributor rights on the Bell 429 Inlet Barrier Filter (IBF) spares and replacement parts. Manufactured by Donaldson Aerospace & Defense, a division of Donaldson Company, Inc. the barrier filters are installed on the aircraft at Bell Helicopter's Mirabel, Quebec commercial assembly facility.

The 429 IBF, part number 116020-103/104, has a maximum life of 6,000 hours (15 cycles every 4,000 hours).

The news that the German Government is to dismantle its nuclear power plants in the wake of the disasters in Japan is likely to have a major effect on future operational activities by the Federal Police helicopter unit in a few years time.

Currently one of the major operational activities is escorting nuclear fuel rods on their journey to reprocessing. Although this activity is a significant element for the German Federal Police it is noteworthy that no such escort activity takes place in the UK.

MD Helicopters, Inc (MDHI), has announced that ADAC Luftfahrt Technik GmbH, in Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, has been approved as an MD Authorized Service Center [ASC]. ADAC is now approved to provide airframe maintenance, component overhaul, and part and accessory sales to the operators of the MD 900 /902 Explorer helicopters.

MD ASC provide factory authorised service and MD factory parts and accessories to their respective region. Each centre is required to attend factory maintenance training for the

models for which they maintain, and are required to manage a minimum spares and specialized tools inventory in order to properly support their customers. In addition, each is able to perform warranty replacement for parts and labour.

ADAC Luftfahrt Technik GmbH at the Sankt Augustin airfield, Bonn Hangelar, was founded in 1963 and employs over 100 highly qualified workers. Approved in accordance with PART 145 of FAA regulations, the company offers a wide variety of helicopter services and boasts a prestigious client list which includes ADAC air rescue ANWB medical air assistance (NL), Luxembourg air ambulance LAA (LUX), federal police, national police helicopter squadrons, national and international carriers and private helicopter operators. Two additional plants are located at the Oppin Airfield Hall, Oppin and the Landshut airfield, Landshut.

Ovation Systems FlashBack-2 digital recording system has been successfully deployed with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) to make dramatic video recordings of their daily rescue missions and routine training operations, in some of the harshest sea conditions in the world.

The RNLI is a charity which provides a 24-hour lifeboat search and rescue service around the coasts of the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

The RNLI Lifeboat crews, who are mostly volunteers, come from all walks of life; giving up their time and risking their lives to carry out rescues at sea in often dangerous conditions.

In 2008 the RNLI began to use the FlashBack-2 digital recording system to make video recordings of their operations at sea. The video is used for training purposes but is also used in the important work of raising public awareness of the difficult work being carried out by the charity in saving lives at sea.

This is important because the organisation receives no funding from the UK government, so relies on charitable donations from members of the public and businesses to continue this vital work.

For this role the FlashBack-2, which is a compact and rugged digital video recorder (DVR), has been combined with a side-mounted helmet camera. The system is connected to the camera by use of a specially designed cable and is carried with a battery in a plastic waterproof case which is mounted on a crew member's belt kit.

The RNLI's in-house engineering department integrated the FlashBack-2 with the other products to create a highly durable and effective man-pack system able to operate in the most extreme conditions. The RNLI now have over 300 Flashback-2 systems deployed at more than 230 lifeboat stations throughout the UK and Republic of Ireland.

FlashBack-2 was specifically designed for covert surveillance applications but continues to show its versatility in a range of roles where video quality, compact size and rugged constructions are key requirements.

FlashBack-2 utilises broadcast standard MPEG-2 video compression to record high quality real-time video and audio to one or two Compact Flash (CF) memory cards. Once a recording has been made, the flash cards may be removed and immediately viewed on a hardware CF media player or PC. As FlashBack-2 files are fully MPEG-2 compliant, standard applications may be used to view and archive recordings to disk or DVD. This compact and rugged recorder is DC powered and has stereo audio inputs at microphone or line level.

Simplex Manufacturing of Portland Oregon have acquired the granular spreader product line from Heli- Ap. Simplex will build the full line of spreader at their Portland, Oregon headquarters.

The new Simplex GS250 30 cubic ft. spreader weighs in at an industry low 90 lbs while the Simplex GS400 55cubic ft. spreader weighs approximately 135lbs, making both products the lightest spreaders available. Both new Simplex spreaders can be re-started in flight in the case of engine stoppage. The new Simplex spreaders also feature the ability for the top portion of the tank to slide up, increasing tank volume by up to 30%. This allows the operator to carry lighter volume materials without compromising safety by overloading denser materials.

Eurocopter's X3 hybrid helicopter demonstrator has delivered on the promise of pushing the frontiers in rotary-wing aviation by surpassing its original speed target of 220 kts. demonstrating the compound aircraft's performance, capabilities and maturity.

The X3's speed milestone was reached on May 12 during stable, level flight – with the hybrid demonstrator maintaining a true air-speed of 232kts. (430 km./hr.) for several minutes. This occurred during only the third mission after a scheduled upgrade that integrated the X3's definitive gearboxes, enabling it to operate at full power.



AeroComputers, Inc., has announced the successful completion of integration between its model UC-5100 tactical mapping system and L-3 Wescam MX-10 EO/IR system. This development marks the latest example of the company's ongoing commitment to delivering reliable and accurate EO/IR sensor and moving map integration.

"Bringing MX-series functionality to a 10-inch gimbal is an impressive technical achievement", said Mark Gassaway, President of AeroComputers. "By integrating the UC-5100 with the MX-10, we provide law enforcement and public safety customers a cost-effective solution for precision geomapping." The integration process was completed at their Southern California facility.

The UC-5100 is in use worldwide by law enforcement and military customers engaged in surveillance, reconnaissance, drug interdiction and vehicle tracking operations. AeroComputers has previously integrated tactical mapping systems with the complete line of L-3 turrets including the MX-10/12/15/20, and the M12/DS200/650.

AgustaWestland has announced that INAER, the leading European helicopter services provider, has signed contracts for two EMS-configured GrandNew light twin helicopters and four GrandNew light twin and one AW139 medium twin helicopters for offshore transport. These contracts mark the entrance of the GrandNew into the European EMS and offshore transport markets. The GrandNew helicopters for offshore transport will be configured with six forward-facing cabin seats, the first time such a seating layout has been fitted in the AgustaWestland light twin range.

The INAER helicopter fleet includes around 60 AgustaWestland single engine and light twin engine helicopters comprising the AW119Ke, AW109 Power, Grand, GrandNew and A109 series, as well as more than 20 AW139 medium twin engine helicopters. www.inaer.com

Britten-Norman has signed a new lease at Daedalus Airfield, Lee-on-the-Solent. The airfield, which was originally a Royal Naval Air Station, had been under the management of the Hampshire Police

Air Support Unit (HPASU). Because of its primary role as an emergency services airfield, public access to the airfield had been heavily restricted.

This new lease includes agreements between the Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) and South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and between SEEDA and Britten-Norman. The two agreements will allow continued operation of the airfield over the two year term of the lease following the expiry of the previous agreement between MCA and HPASU. Fly BN Ltd, Britten-Norman's airfield management subsidiary, will have full responsibility for day-to-day operations at the airfield. www.eghf.com www.flybn.com

The FLIR Vision Awards are presented annually to the airborne teams with the best recent video recording of a rescue, chase, apprehension or surveillance mission. FLIR Systems is looking to honour the airborne law enforcement use of EO/IR technology with its 16th Annual FLIR Vision Awards. The deadline for entry was May 15. Awards will be presented on July 21, during the Pig Pickin' at **ALEA's 41st Annual Conference and Exposition** in New Orleans, LA. (FLIR Systems)

In April, the US House of Representatives passed the Federal Aviation Administration Re-authorization and Reform Act of 2011 by a vote of 223 to 196. The bill includes important passages about integrating **unmanned aircraft systems (UAS)** into the National Airspace System (NAS).

Among the details, the bill proposes to set a deadline of September 2015 for the integration of commercial UAS into the NAS. It also requires the FAA to simplify its application process for law enforcement and public safety agencies. Once the application process is simplified, law enforcement and public safety agencies will be able to operate UAS weighing less than 4.4 pounds within the line-of-sight of the operator, less than 400 feet in the air during daylight hours within Class G airspace and outside five miles from any airport.

Enterprise Control Systems Ltd (ECS) has developed and supplied digital COFDM links for more than ten years and now has a customer base which includes police, military and surveillance units across the globe.

ECS has recently created a new photograph gallery which includes images of COFDM and Jamming products (RF Inhibitors) along with images of the ECS working environment at their state-of-the-art Technology Park in rural Northamptonshire.

Each photograph is linked to its associated product page/section of the website by clicking the heading at the top of the image. www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk

Rhodes Communications, Inc., an international PR and marketing communications firm based in Norfolk, Va., has announced that it has been selected to provide PR and marketing services for Altus Positioning Systems.

Altus is a manufacturer of high-precision surveying instruments based on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) technology for applications such as public works, civil engineering, construction, boundary surveys, mapping, seismic exploration and law enforcement. Founded in 2006, Altus is based in Torrance, Calif., with an international network of sales representatives in key countries around the world. The company is privately held.

SELEX Galileo, a leader in Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), has acquired Italian technology firm UTRI (Unmanned Technologies Research Institute). UTRI provides innovative mini-micro UAS for defence and homeland security purposes. UTRI has been recognised at a European level for its excellence in unmanned technology.



Piaggio Aero Industries has announced that **Corporate Jet Management (CJM)** has been appointed as an 'Exclusive Dealer' for Piaggio Aero and its innovative Piaggio P.180 Avanti II business aircraft. CJM will represent the Avanti II within the UK, Ireland, Isle of Man and Channel Island territories.

Corporate Jet Management (CJM) is based at the Business Aviation Centre, Farnborough Airport, and is one of Europe's leading Business Aircraft Management specialists. The Company manages and operates executive aircraft, both on behalf of owners and from its own fleet. CJM's years of experience makes the British company able to provide high quality aviation solutions

Alkan Air, the Cairo based charter operator and service centre, has been appointed as the official Egyptian agent for the sale of Piaggio Aero P.180 Avanti II aircraft.

Alkan Air will focus on the promotion and sale of the Piaggio Aero P.180 AVANTI II aircraft throughout Egypt. The company also plans to add a P 180 AVANTI II to its own fleet of aircraft in the near future.

The P180 Avanti II brings a completely new aircraft to Egypt – one that uses 40 percent less fuel and has the lowest carbon footprint in its class by far, while providing class leading performance and cabin comfort. The P180 Avanti II is uniquely styled and efficient, making it an ideal aircraft for the North African medium range travellers.

Altus Positioning Systems today announced that it recently completed deliveries of 22 APS-3 GNSS survey receivers to the **Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)**.

The order for the 22 high-precision GNSS units was placed through Butler Survey Supplies Ltd., an Altus dealer in Canada. The RCMP is pairing the receivers, which can each be used as a base station or a rover, into 11 systems with MapScenes Evidence Recorder (EvR) software to reconstruct traffic accident scenes in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Varlink the York, Yorkshire UK, based specialist distributor of mobile computing and associated barcode products has been appointed as specialist distributor of **Brother** mobile solutions products.

Aimed at field workers and professionals who need to print on-the-move, Brother's range of mobile print products includes its new PocketJet range, the company's first range of mobile A4 printers. Varlink will work directly with Brother to launch the new range.

The PocketJet 600 range designed to be utilised by the emergency services – with in-vehicle mounted printing which is ideal for police officers, fire-fighters and paramedics. Brother acquired the mobile printer business from PENTAX, which allowed its own manufacturers to further develop the specialist thermal print technology and create an upgraded version of the popular PJ500s. The four new models offer faster print speeds, longer battery-life and improved features, including sharper print quality. The flagship model, the PJ-663, has already won a prestigious iF Product Design Award 2011 by the International Forum Design. Each printer weighs a maximum of 473g (excluding battery and paper) and measures just under 26cm in length.

New features include print speeds of up to 6ppm, optional Li-ion battery for increased yield of up to 300 pages per charge, Bluetooth Imaging Protocol support for downloading and printing JPEG files, template storage capabilities and design software to create and download document templates.

Brother PocketJet printers can connect to devices such as laptops, tablets, PDAs and Smartphones, with a variety of connectivity options, including USB, IrDA and Bluetooth. Contact Varlink on +44 1904 717180 or visit www.varlink.co.uk



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AIR ACCIDENTS & INCIDENTS

2 May 2011 Cessna 421 N270CS Air ambulance of CALSTAR, McClellan, California, USA. The crew was on an inter-facility transport to pick up a patient in Truckee, CA. While on the downwind for a landing, the pilot extended the flaps to Full (45 degrees). With both flaps extended, the pilot heard a loud pop. The aircraft rolled violently to the right, perhaps reaching ~80 degrees of bank. Although the pilot was using full control deflection to the left to level the aircraft, he was able to select flaps up, gear up and establish a positive rate of climb. The pilot suspected a flap failure on one side. After checks it was found that the flaps were defective. Emergency declared. The pilot and crew elected not to land at Truckee due to density altitude, shorter, narrower runway and 13-16kt crosswinds. Diverted to McClellan (Reno). The landing was conducted without incident. Post flight examination revealed that the right flap was loose due to a broken control cable [Concern]

4 May 2011 Eurocopter EC120B N277SD. Sacramento County Sheriff, California. Following the illumination of an engine chip light the aircraft was put down temporarily in a field at Folsom Auburn Road and Fuller Drive, Placer County.

5 May 2011 Cessna. Four UN anti-drug workers and two Bolivian pilots were found dead after their plane crashed in western Bolivia. The small aircraft went missing after it left for a mission to monitor the country's coca-growing area north of the capital of La Paz. [UN]

6 May 2011 Piper PA-31T N431GW. Air ambulance of Cal-Ore Life Flight, Brookings, Oregon, USA. The pilot was ferrying a company Cheyenne II (Part 91) from Eureka, CA, to Crescent City, CA, with no other passengers or crew aboard. Upon entering the pattern and selecting gear down, the left main gear light did not illuminate. After troubleshooting, performing a fly-by and having another company aircraft fly formation to inspect the gear in-flight, it was determined that the gear was down and locked. The plane landed without incident and upon touchdown, the green light came on. Cause was a sticky gear latch mechanism that had not moved far enough to depress a plunger on a microswitch to activate the light and complete the landing gear cycle. [Concern]

10 May 2011 MD Helicopter MD902 Explorer D-HBWG. Baden-Wurtemberg Police, Germany. The helicopter crashed into trees whilst undertaking a search for a missing elderly person at Engelsbrand, Baden-Wurtemberg. The crew of three survived but were seriously injured, Both pilots were trapped in the cabin but the observer/FLIR camera operator was found outside the cabin. There was no fire but the airframe was completely destroyed. [media]

14 May 2011 Hindustan Chetak. Four people were killed when the paramilitary helicopter crashed in India's northwestern state of Rajasthan. The Chetak came down in the hilly terrain of Rajasthan's Sirohi district when it was flying from Gandhinagar in Gujarat to the air force base at Jodhpur. The bodies of two pilots and two Border Security Force (BSF) personnel were charred beyond recognition. [Hindustan Times]

19 May 2011 Bell 212 C-**.** Fire fighting helicopter of Campbell Helicopters Abbotsford, BC. The pilot Jean-Luc Deba, a 54-year-old Montreal resident was killed when a machine fighting wildfires near Slave Lake crashed into Lesser Slave Lake and was partially submerged. [Media]



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20 May 2011 Sud Alouette. Turkish Police, Istanbul. The helicopter crashed into the waters of the Bosphorus Strait killing four people. Five people were aboard the helicopter that went down off the coast of Beykoz on the Asian side of the Bosphorus. One person survived the crash with injuries while the four others, including one child, were killed. A malfunction is being given as the reason. A private news agency gave those on board as being a senior police official - Ragıp Ali Bilgen, who heads the Information Technologies Department at the İstanbul Police Department -- his child, two pilots and an official from Turkish Airlines. Preliminary reports indicate Police Deputy Chief Kemal Özdemir was pilot and was also the survivor. The remaining four passengers in the helicopter, Information Processing Director Ragıp Ali Bilgen; his son, Deniz Bilgen; Commissioner Murat Güçlü; and an unidentified person from Turkish Airlines [Media]

24 May 2011 Mil Mi-17. Mexican Federal Police. Suspected drug cartel gunmen opened fire on the helicopter, hitting two officers and forcing the craft to land. It was not the damage, the pilot decided to land "to avoid any accident." The Mi-17 touched down about 3.5 miles from the shooting scene. Two officers suffered non-life-threatening wounds. [FP]

25 May 2011. Pilatus PC-12 VT-ACF. Air ambulance of Air Chartered Services Pvt Ltd, Delhi. The aircraft with seven on board crashed into a housing area in Faridabad killing all on board. Three more persons were killed on the ground. The aircraft had taken off from Patna and was expected in Delhi. The last contact with the aircraft was when it was at a height of 11,000 ft. It may have deviated from its path, possibly due to strong winds that were affecting other air traffic. The plane fell on two houses in the middle of Parvatia Colony, near Jawahar Colony, and burst into flames. There were five passengers and two crew members on board. The 22-year-old patient, Rahul Raj, died with Dr Rajesh, Dr Arshad, Captain Harpreet, co-pilot Manpreet Kataria, Ratnesh Kumar and male nurse Cyril. [Media]

26 May 2011 Bell 206L N1818. Air ambulance of Lifeflight on maintenance test flight got into difficulties and put down in a cornfield 10 miles from Newton, Harvey County, Kansas. On landing it fell onto its side causing extensive damage and slight injuries to the pilot and mechanic aboard. [Eagle]

29 May 2011 Bell OH-58A N911SL Police helicopter of the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office. Whilst undertaking a searching for a possible accident victim on Interstate 95 near Okeechobee Road it crashed after a strong gust of wind caused it to spin. The pilot, and sole occupant, Deputy Shawn Sullivan, was airlifted to hospital, treated and released. Damage to the airframe was extensive. [TCPalm]

PEOPLE

Last month the National Commissioner of the South African Police Service, General Bheki Cele announced the death of one of his respected and experienced pilots, **Colonel Shabir Khan.**

Khan, together with a colleague from the SAPS Air Wing at Wonderboom Airport Pretoria, miraculously survived a helicopter crash in January this year.

After concerned colleagues, who were advised that Colonel Khan had failed to keep a medi-

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Police Aviation News includes materials produced for it by Ian J Commin of Insight Design of North Burnham, Slough SL1 6DS. This includes the banner titles and the PAVCon logo. In addition from time to times images specifically altered by Insight Design and others but originally produced for McAlpine Helicopters [now Eurocopter UK], Oxford, will appear with permission of the original owner. In some cases it may not be possible to indicate the source of this material directly associated with the images used.

cal appointment, contacted Wierdabrug Police Station, his body was found on his bed in his home in Centurion. There was no sign of forced entry.

Colonel Khan, 43 years of age, was a fixed wing pilot and was one of the pilots who flew the police jet and therefore interacted with General Cele on many occasions. He was a pilot for 20 years, the past 16 years with the South African Police Service and had 7 000 hours flying time.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Western Operations) has announced the appointment of **Grahame Marshall** as its chief executive officer.

Mr Marshall is currently the Territory Insurance Office general manager banking and distribution. He has previously worked in a range of senior management roles, with organisations including Westpac, Electricity Trust of SA, Lynch Meyer Lawyers and WorkCoverSA.

In April 2010 Guy Lachlan, the British Business and General Aviation Association [BBGA] CEO, resigned his position so as to pursue development of his family business. Following a restructuring of the roles and responsibilities, **Marc Bailey** was appointed as the Association's Chief Operating Officer (COO) in December 2010 and assumed responsibility for all operational and regulatory matters. At the same time Guy was retained on a short term contract to discharge the remaining responsibilities of the office of the CEO on a part time basis and to support the transition of Marc into his new COO role.

With this transition now complete and with the success and growth in Guy's business it was mutually agreed that this would be an appropriate time to support Guy's need to focus on the continuing development of his family business. Guy will therefore be resigning his position with immediate effect. Pending the appointment of a new CEO in due course, the Chairman and Council members will provide support and assistance as may be necessary.

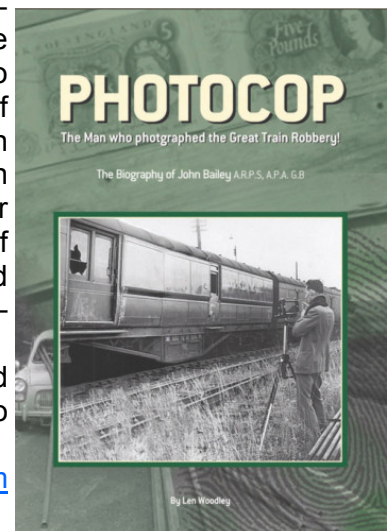
More changes at Bell Helicopter. **Terry Burnell** the European region director has gone and no replacement has been announced. Meanwhile **Carl H Crenshaw III** is the new Key Segment Specialist for Parapublic and Commercial business. Carl is based in Fort Worth, Texas and can be contacted on ccrenshaw@bellhelicopter.textron.com +1 817 471 8867

BOOK

Although the book has not been here for review I noted that a recent issue of the NARPO [National Association of Retired Police Officers] magazine carried a review of **Photocop** – the man who photographed the Great Train Robbery! This is the Biography of John Bailey ARPS, APAGB by Len Woodley. I know both men slightly and am therefore aware that Bailey is an important figure in recent UK police aviation history. As the Scenes of Crime officer for Buckinghamshire – now Thames Valley - the images he took of the original 1963 Great Train Robbery flashed around the world and many readers will have seen his aerial and ground based illustrations of that event even if the name means nothing.

The book is about more than that 1963 historic event though and takes his life from childhood, the Royal Air Force and the police to his later life as a truly professional photographer.

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EVENTS

PAvCon BILBAO, 2011.

At the invitation of the Basque Police the third edition of this Police Aviation Conference took place just outside the city of Bilbao, Spain. Nearly 90 people declared an intention to attend the event but in the event 75 were on site during the two days. They were from Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta, The Netherlands, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States. Political difficulties in some quarters stopped the list of countries being larger.

After this issue is published a special edition will be published on the web site www.pavcon.org



Biggin Hill Airport in Kent, just off the M25, has been chosen as the site for Business Aircraft Europe 2011 on 14-15 September. Organised by specialist show organisers MIU Events Ltd it will expand on the Light Jets Europe and Very Light Jets conferences which have been run successfully by the same company for the past five years.

The new event will comprise an expo of 30+ stands, a static display of aircraft, a paid-for conference and a networking party. The event last year was held at Oxford Airport, but without the display stands.

MIU says it will also create a unique showcase for companies looking to target those travelling into London ahead of the 2012 Olympic Games.

Whilst the aircraft and stands are for the most part self-explanatory, the whole enterprise will essentially evolve around the conference programme, which last year offered a diversified programme on all aspects of executive aviation and kept delegates very busy over the two days. The networking aspect of the gathering also proved to be of great value. See last year's gathering. www.aerbt.co.uk/a/201039#2598 www.miuevents.com

DIARY

5 June 2011 American Eagles Fun Day & Fly In. North Weald Airfield, Epping, Essex. In aid of Essex and Herts. Air Ambulance and Help for Heroes. Opens 11am and displays start at 12noon. This year the event is celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the American Eagle Squadrons at RAF North Weald with a special Fun Day organised by Weald Aviation in association with Epping Forest District Council and The Squadron. The Fly-in is expected to attract many interesting visitors, included are to be a Spitfire, Mustang, Buchon and other warbirds due to attend. The Airfield has a large selection of home-based aircraft, which will also be parked for you to view close up. The US Air Force is supporting the event, subject to operational commitments. Youngsters are well catered for with fairground rides, a bouncy castle and children's entertainers. www.hertsairambulance.uk.com www.wealdaviation.com

Not helicopters but nonetheless an air vehicle used by many eastern border patrols – the Griffon Hoverwork and Universal Engineering will be showing their hovercraft at **Seawork 2011 - Stand SB123 - 14th - 16th June 2011** – Southampton. If you miss them then there is always a chance at DSEi 2011 - Stand 449/N4-100 - 13th - 16th September 2011 – London Excel.



ISRAEL DEFENCE 2011
THE INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE FORCES EXHIBITION

www.isdef.co.il/

17-19 June 2011 AeroExpo UK. Festival of Aviation, Sywell Aerodrome, Sywell, Northampton. General Aviation trade fair that includes several flying displays from general aviation types right through to powerful aerobatics aircraft. In it's sixth year, AeroExpo UK's Festival of Aviation has moved from Wycombe Air Park to our exciting new venue at Sywell. This provides us with many new exciting possibilities to further develop and expand the event and highlight the fun element of Aviation, which ultimately is what it is all about. +44 1604 491112 www.expo.aero/uk

18 June 2011 American Heroes Air Show. Seattle, Washington, USA. The American Heroes Air Show is the nation's premier admission –free, helicopter-only aviation event produced by volunteers from coast-to-coast with a passion for aviation and public service. Details from Details from James D. Paules Jr. Volunteer - Executive Producer, American Heroes Aviation Network. +1 (818) 631-8132 Email: Jim@Heroes-airshow.com www.heroes-airshow.com

20-26 June Paris Air Show 2011. The 49th edition of the International Paris Air Show – Paris Le Bourget has been the premier and largest worldwide event dedicated to the aviation and space industry for a century. With some 2,000 exhibitors, 138,000 trade visitors, 3,000 journalists and 200 official delegations, the Show indisputably remains a key point in the industry's economic cycle. It is the essential event for meeting aviation and space industry professionals, communicating expertise, presenting innovations and becoming a player in the sector's decision-making. www.paris-air-show.com

22-24 June 2011 GPEC Asia KLCC Convention Center Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The second edition of an event previously well established in Europe. Malaysia's capital city of Kuala Lumpur becomes the focus of the Police, Emergency and Enforcement community with this, the only exhibition and conference of its kind in the region. GPEC ASIA is an exhibition exclusively for specific members of the enforcement agencies, primarily, the police force and other enforcement authorities. This also includes the prison service, customs, immigration, security related departments, the military police and a selected number of private security organisations. In this era where global security is an uncertainty, law enforcement agencies must be fully equipped with the most current technologies and innovations in the call to prevent, protect, and respond to homeland security requirements and policies set by responsive and responsible governments. www.fr-exhibitions.com.my

4 July 2011 American Heroes Air Show. US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado. The American Heroes Air Show is the nation's premier admission –free, helicopter-only aviation event produced by volunteers from coast-to-coast with a passion for aviation and public service. Details from Details from James D. Paules Jr. Volunteer - Executive Producer, American Heroes Aviation Network. +1 (818) 631-8132 Email: Jim@Heroes-airshow.com www.heroes-airshow.com

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PANews

CYPRUS

Two of the new AgustaWestland AW139 operated by the Cyprus Police Air Wing pictured over the islands in March. The 139's replace the existing fleet of Bell 412's [left]

[Air-Britain Ton van Soest]

AIR EYE

