
First H145 helicopter in Australia Pacific region

Auckland, 13 April 2015 – Less than twelve months after its corporate rebranding, Airbus Group Australia Pacific has delivered an advanced, multi-mission H145 helicopter.

The delivery of this first H145 to the Australia Pacific region culminates a program preparing the helicopter to its new owner's requirements, with aircrews and technical support teams in New Zealand and Germany working to deliver the helicopter, which replaces the customer's earlier model EC145.

Commenting on the H145's delivery to its New Zealand customer, Dr Jens Goennemann, Managing Director Airbus Group Australia Pacific said, "We are delighted to see the arrival of the first H145 in this region. It's yet another example of our customers acknowledging that Airbus Helicopters offers the latest in rotary-wing technology, enhanced mission capability and flexibility."

Designed to deliver excellent performance throughout the flight envelope, the H145 was certified last year as the latest member of Airbus Helicopters' 4-tonne-class, twin-engine product range, incorporating a package of state-of-the-art technologies that reinforce the family's reputation as the quietest helicopters on the market.

This quietness is achieved by utilising an enclosed Fenestron® tail rotor and an automatic variable rotor speed control system which, together, produce significantly reduced external sound levels while boosting payload, range and speed.

Compact in size but with a spacious cabin that can accommodate one pilot and ten passengers, the H145's small noise footprint, range and speed make it the aircraft of choice for a variety of civil missions.

The class-leading H145 will be touring Australia and New Zealand during May and June 2015.

About Airbus Group Australia Pacific

Airbus Group Australia Pacific is a part of Airbus Group, a global pioneer in aerospace and defence related services whose companies include Airbus, Airbus Helicopters and Airbus Defence and Space.

Wholly owned by Airbus Helicopters, Airbus Group Australia Pacific represents Airbus Group in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific and is the region's largest helicopter manufacturer, employing more than 1300 people across 15 sites in Australia and New Zealand. With the largest market share in civilian and military helicopters, the company supports more than 500 Airbus Helicopters and is well recognised as a leading Through-Life-Support provider in military fixed wing and helicopter platforms.

About Airbus Helicopters

Airbus Helicopters is a division of Airbus Group, a global pioneer in aerospace and defense related services. Airbus Helicopters is the world's No. 1 helicopter manufacturer and employs more than 23,000 people worldwide. With 44 percent market share in civil and parapublic sectors, the company's fleet in service includes some 12,000 helicopters operated by more than 3,000 customers in more than 150 countries. Airbus Helicopters' international presence is marked by its 29 customer centers and participations and its worldwide network of service centers, training facilities, distributors and certified agents. Airbus Helicopters' range of civil and military helicopters is the world's largest; its aircraft account for one third of the worldwide civil and parapublic fleet. The company's chief priority is to ensure the safe operation of its aircraft for the thousands of people who fly more than 3 million hours per year.

Earlier this year, Airbus Helicopters announced new "H" designations to replace the former corporate identity "EC" across its civil and military product lines, symbolising the company's full integration in the Airbus Group and consistent with the numbering used by the Airbus commercial jetliner manufacturer.

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