

NHIndustries Delivers The NH90



Aix-en-Provence, 13 December 2006

The first three next-generation **NH90 Tactical Transport Helicopters (TTH)** were handed over to the German Army at Eurocopter's Donauwörth facility in the presence of a large group of guests from the German Federal Ministry of Defence, the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement, NAHEMA (**NATO Helicopter Management Agency**) as well as the German Army on December 13th, 2006.

This major event on the first delivery of the biggest military helicopter programme ever launched by Europe, stands as the materialization of the Production Investment and the Production (PI/P) contract signed in Paris on June 30th, 2000, when Germany, together with France, Italy and The Netherlands, placed an order for 300 **NH90** (243 firm and 57 options). One year after, Portugal became the 5th European nation in the **NH90** programme when contracting for 10 **TTH**, bringing the NAHEMO (**NATO Helicopter Management Organization**) total acquisition up to 310 **NH90**.

The German Army is the first customer to take delivery of the **NH90**. The aircraft with the serial numbers **TGEA02** and **TGEA03** will be used for flight training at the German Army Air Corps Weapons School in Bückeburg, while serial number **TGEA05** will be used to train maintenance staff.

Qualification of the **NH90 TTH** was completed by NAHEMA on March 31st this year. German type certification was granted on December 1st, 2006, clearing the way for deliveries initially to the German customer as well as for the respective national certifications of the **NH90 TTH** for other NAHEMO and export customers.

Today, **NHIndustries**, the industrial joint venture between AgustaWestland (32%), Eurocopter (62.5%) and Stork Fokker (5.5%), is honored to hand over the first **NH90 TTH** out of the 80 firm + 54 options ordered by the German Army Aviation (*Heeresfliegertruppe*).

The worldwide commercial success of this state-of-the-art medium-size, twin-engine and multi-role military helicopter never faded out and proudly shows the formidable backlog of 500 **NH90** contracted (400 firm plus 100 options) to equip 18 Armed Forces of 14 countries, while final negotiations are proceeding with Spain and Belgium about respectively 45 and 10 additional **TTH**.

Today almost 100 helicopters are in the final phase of assembly while 18 serial **NH90** are presently in the four flight lines, completing the industry verifications and starting the acceptance process.

Within the next weeks, Industry will continue to deliver additional **NH90 TTH** to Germany as well as to other Customers.

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