

Aero India 2015

Airbus Helicopters' EC130 T2 enters the Indian market with orders from two launch customers

Bengaluru, India, 20 February 2015 – Airbus Helicopters today signed Indian market launch orders for its single-engine EC130 T2 with Sanjay Ghodawat Group and Global Vectra Helicorp Ltd. (GVHL), which are to introduce the popular single-engine EC130's enhanced version later this year for passenger transport services in Kolhapur and Delhi respectively.

Signing ceremonies with both customers – who ordered one EC130 T2 each – were held on Airbus Helicopters' exhibit stand (OD-8) during Aero India 2015 at Bengaluru's Air Force Station Yelahanka.

"We are delighted that our Indian customers have selected the EC130 T2 – which has the largest cabin of any single-engine rotorcraft in the world," said Mr. Xavier Hay, Managing Director of Airbus Helicopters' Customer Center in India. "We are confident the EC130 T2 will provide superior service in this country, especially with its advanced technology and the capability to deliver excellent performance in high and hot conditions."

The Sanjay Ghodawat Group is a diversified conglomerate with presence in consumer products, energy, mining, chemicals and agribusiness, among others. GVHL is India's largest private helicopter company, which will assign the EC130 T2 to Birdie – its on-shore operations division offering charters and religious tourism services among others.

"We are the first to start shuttle services in India, and are confident of providing the best services with the EC130 T2 – which offers a true economical solution, combined with the highest levels of safety," said Mr. Ed Van Dam, Chief Executive Officer at GVHL.

"The EC130T2 is suited to a broad range of travel solutions and features the latest technology and safety features," added Mr. Sanjay Ghodawat, Chairman of Sanjay Ghodawat Group. "We are proud to be a launch customer for the EC130 T2 in India."

Airbus Helicopters' multi-role EC130 T2 has a spacious cabin for one pilot and up to seven passengers. In addition to its improved performance, a number of enhancements enable easier maintenance and longer inspection intervals.

More than 70 percent of the EC130 T2's airframe structure has been modified from the previous EC130 B4 version. New and updated features include the use of a more powerful Arriel 2D turboshaft engine and upgraded main gearbox; along with the incorporation of an active vibration control system, and improved air conditioning, distribution and demisting systems.

The EC130 T2 also has a redesigned cabin interior with a full flat floor, a cockpit update for enhanced man-machine interface, integration of a crashworthy fuel tank, and increased maintenance accessibility for the electrical and air conditioning systems.

Performance of the EC130 T2 has been improved for a higher maximum gross takeoff weight (2,500 kg. for internal loads, and 3,050 kg. when external loads are carried), and a speed increase of up to 10 kts. from the EC130 B4. Even with these enhancements, the EC130 T2's external sound level remains within the strict rules for flights at America's Grand Canyon National Park – an important factor for tour operators around the world.

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.

For more information please contact:

Priscilla Yip
Tel: +65 6592 7217
Mob: +65 9660 7040
Priscilla.yip@airbus.com

Neha Adhikari
Tel: +91 11 4580 1126
Mob: +91 8130 11 2220
Neha.adhikari@airbus.com