

VSR700



Updated as of June 2017

Key Features

- Developed by a joint venture between Airbus Helicopters and Hélicoptères Guimbal, VSR stands for Vertivision Surveillance Rotorcraft 700, for 700 kg of maximum take-off weight.
- The VSR-700 is a light military rotary-wing tactical unmanned aerial vehicle derived from the Cabri G2, an existing civil certified 2-seater piston engine helicopter, which provides a solid baseline for evolving to a military certification. Similarly, the avionics suite and flight control system are derived from existing Airbus Helicopters components.
- The VSR700 will be capable of carrying a wide array of mission equipment; maximum payload capacity up to 250 kg.

Main Missions

- Airbus is convinced of the importance of unmanned rotary-wing systems for future maritime and land based military operations.
- Its key mission is ISTAR (Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance) which aims to survey, and assess targets in a given zone with high performance day / night cameras and maritime/land radar. It is designed to complement traditional helicopter operations.
- It has a much lower operating cost than a helicopter as it requires fewer resources and less manpower, combined with a low fuel consuming Diesel engine.
- This will allow a customer's existing helicopter fleet to be available for higher level tasks where human presence is critical.
- One of the strong points of the VSR700 is its low logistical footprint, enabling it to be deployed alongside manned helicopters. From a mission perspective, it is the ideal platform to work with traditional helicopters to enhance situational awareness and, as a result, optimize helicopter missions.

Key Dates

- 2017: 1st semester – first autonomous flight on modified Cabri G2 with safety pilot and first flight without safety pilot planned before the end of the year.
- 2018: 1st VSR700 prototype flight testing
- 2019: Military certification and initiation of serial VSR700 production
- 2020: First deliveries

Technical & Mission Characteristics

- Optimised size, fits alongside helicopters in existing ship hangars
 - High payload / endurance: more than 10h endurance with a 100kg mission payload
 - Operating altitude of 20,000ft
 - Mission versatility
 - Multi-sensor capability
 - Plug & Play sensors
 - Diesel engine, very low fuel consumption
 - Low operational costs and maintenance costs
 - Small logistic footprint
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