

Press Release

Airbus confirms H145M bid in key military rotary wing campaign

Brisbane, 18 March 2019 – Airbus Australia Pacific Managing Director Andrew Mathewson today confirmed that Airbus has recently responded to the Commonwealth of Australia’s request for information for a four-tonne class, rapidly deployable, multi-role helicopter for Australian Special Forces.

“The Airbus H145M helicopter is the military version of the H145 – the most advanced member of Airbus’ multi-purpose twin-engine category. It is based on a commercial off-the-shelf platform with military-specific modifications and is an operationally proven, affordable and low-risk option for Australia,” said Andrew Mathewson.

“The H145M programme and systems are based on around five million hours of flying experience with the H145 family of aircraft which has over 1,300 units in service today.

The Airbus Australia Pacific response included selected industry partners and the provision of training, maintenance, logistics and engineering activities. A comprehensive transfer of technology and skills will make Airbus Australia Pacific a regional centre able to proactively support Australian operational needs, and export this knowledge back into the wider H145M community,” he added.

Mathewson said that other strengths of the Airbus H145M included:

- Excellent access and cabin space
- Compact footprint for maximum agility
- Excellent hot and high flight performance
- Airbus Helionix cockpit which reduces pilot workload and allows greater situational awareness
- Full multi-role capability allowing support to missions including aerial assault, aerial fire support, attack, ISTAR, CASEVAC and general utility tasks
- High availability; reliable and robust systems; a small logistic footprint; proven by operations in similar configuration, roles and environment
- High rotor clearance and shrouded Fenestron for operations close to obstacles

“Airbus stands ready to respond to the next stage in the tender process,” Mathewson added.

About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2018 it generated revenues of € 64 billion and employed a workforce of around 134,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world’s leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide.

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