

Press Release

Airbus H125 helicopters enter Austrian Ministry of Interior service

Specialist UK design team performed major police customisation

#H125 @AirbusHeli @BMI_OE

Innsbruck, 21 October, 2019 – Austria’s Ministry of the Interior (BMI) has formally introduced into service two Airbus H125 helicopters extensively equipped for law enforcement and rescue missions.

The aircraft join BMI’s existing fleets of Airbus H135 and AS350 helicopters and will operate from Innsbruck and Salzburg on behalf of the Tyrolean Government in the Tyrol and other mountainous areas of Austria.

The first aircraft was handed over at a ceremony in Innsbruck on 17 October in the presence of Austrian Interior Minister, Wolfgang Peschorn, and Governor of the Province of Tyrol, Günther Platter.

The helicopters feature a comprehensive suite of mission equipment in a customised configuration designed by Airbus Helicopters in the UK and fitted at the company’s Oxford headquarters. The package includes a dual cargo hook, plus night vision compatibility, searchlight, fire-fighting equipment including the interface for Bambi bucket operation, and TETRA tactical communications among others.

The H125 was selected by the BMI due to its versatility and all-round performance which are critical to delivering mission availability in Austria’s Alpine regions throughout the year.

Werner Senn, BMI Head of Air Police said: “It has been a complex design and implementation process to provide the H125 with the capabilities that we wanted and it is a tribute to the excellent cooperation between our respective teams that we achieved the desired result. This will give the BMI and the Tyrol region one of the most advanced police aviation capabilities in Europe on an aircraft of this size.”

Colin James, Managing Director Airbus Helicopters in the UK said: “The ability of our team to devise and deliver the most extensive mission configuration has been critical to the successful provision of this exceptionally capable aircraft. This design makes the most of the H125’s underlying performance and demonstrates the key contribution that the company’s UK operation can deliver to specialised customers worldwide.”

The attached photo shows one of the aircraft flying in the Alps.

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.

Media contact:

Kieran Daly

+44 7771 389229

kieran.daly@airbus.com