



## **FINLAND SIGNS THE CONTRACT FOR 20 NH90 HELICOPTERS**

Helsinki, 19 October 2001

Today Mr. Jan-Erik Enestam, Minister of Defence of Finland, Mr. Eero Lavonen, National Armament Director, and Mr. Philippe Stuckelberger, General Manager of NHIndustries, signed the purchase contract for 20 NH90 helicopters. After two year's competition, this follows the NSHP Committee recommendation in favour of the NH90 as the common helicopter, announced on 13 September 2001.

Besides the Acquisition Contract the Finnish MOD and NHI signed the Side Agreement concerning the allocation of a NH90 final assembly line to Finland, as well as the Agreement on Industrial Participation giving Finnish defence industry the opportunity to participate in the manufacturing of parts and the assembly of purchased equipment.

The 20 Finnish NH90 helicopters are in the Tactical Troop Transport configuration, derived from NAHEMA TTH version, and will be operated by the Finnish Defence Forces (Army Aviation) in the tactical transport and SAR roles.

All the Finnish NH90 are equipped with the Rolls-Royce Turbomeca RRTM322-01/9 engine.

First NH90 TTT helicopter will be delivered to Finnish Defence Forces in late 2004, and the series will be completed at the Finnish assembly line specifically arranged in Patria Finavitec, in collaboration with NHIndustries, within the year 2008.

This new contract with Finland increases the firm orders of the NH90 up to 291 units, and the options up to 62. Moreover France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, and The Netherlands, together with Finland, are ready to welcome Norway that is expecting to sign the supply contract for the NH90 within few weeks.

NHIndustries, together with its Partner Companies, is very proud to announce this new success of the NH90 in particular to the five NH90 Programme participating Countries, which have largely contributed to the design, development, and qualification of this excellent helicopter system.

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