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Hawker Pacific adds Bell 429 Helicopter to its Customer Service Facility

Hawker Pacific, Asia Pacific's leading aircraft sales, services and product support company, has added the Bell 429 Helicopter to its Bell Helicopter Customer Service Facility (CSF) at Bankstown, following approval from the manufacturer. The Bankstown facility will provide maintenance and support for the growing number of Bell 429s in the region. Hawker Pacific is now investing in factory training, specialist tooling, and spare parts to provide a world-class service to these latest generation aircraft.

Doug Park, Senior Vice President Australia and New Zealand Operations/Special Programs at Hawker Pacific said: "Our Bankstown Airport CSF already maintains and supports a number of Bell owners and operators, including new aircraft under warranty right through to a large number of earlier models. This support also includes the assembly and customisation of new aircraft."

"The 429 is the first helicopter of its type using the MSG 3 principles, which will flow through to a lower cost of support. It is great to see it being delivered to operators in the area and, based on current demand, it will be a significant product in the region."

The Bell 429 Helicopter is the world's newest and most advanced light twin-engine helicopter, and has been designed, built and certified to the most stringent airworthiness standard. It delivers 155kt speed with a state-of-the-art cockpit featuring single pilot IRS and WAAS precision approach capabilities. Its cabin is exceptionally spacious with seating for up to eight passengers and can be reconfigured for any number of different missions. As the first helicopter to be certified under the MSG3 maintenance program, the aircraft has the lowest direct operating costs in its class.

Currently, there is one Bell 429 in service in New Zealand, one corporate aircraft to be delivered to Sydney in December, and three aircraft arriving next year for the Royal Australian Navy RMI 2 program won by Raytheon Australia.

Tony Jones, Senior Vice President Aircraft Sales and Flight Services Group said: "The Bell 429 is rapidly being recognised for its superior cabin space, performance and low direct operating costs. The response from the market has been very positive and, with a dozen aircraft being delivered in Asia Pacific by the end of the year, coupled with strong local support, we are confident in a very healthy future for the Bell 429 in both the corporate and special mission roles."

Notes to Editor:

1. **Hawker Pacific** is a market leader in integrated civil and military aerospace sales and product support in South East Asia, Australia, the Pacific and the Middle East and is one of the largest independent companies of its type in the region with nearly 600 employees. The company's Asian operations include established businesses in Singapore, China, the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Hawker Pacific represents some of the world's leading aircraft manufacturers, including Hawker Beechcraft Corporation, Bell Helicopter and Diamond Aircraft. Hawker Pacific is also a primary dealer in used aircraft with networks to source, acquire and trade aircraft globally.

Hawker Pacific is also Australia's premier fixed base operator (FBO) with a network of facilities in Sydney, Brisbane, Cairns, Singapore, Perth, Shanghai and Malaysia. The company's FBOs offer VIP services and crew facilities, 24/7 on demand aircraft charter from a modern aircraft fleet, flight operations and total aircraft management.

Hawker Pacific's product support activities include MRO, structural modification and support services to a wide range of fixed and rotary wing aircraft for corporate, charter, defence and special mission operators throughout the region. Other services include aircraft and engine maintenance, repair and overhaul, special mission aircraft modifications, design engineering, avionics parts and service, plus the provision of spare parts, exchange rotables and equipment sales.

Hawker Pacific holds the highest certification levels and accreditations including CASA, EASA and FAA certification, ISO 9001 Bureau Veritas accreditation, plus OEM customer / airworthiness approvals by 26 major global suppliers and civil and military regulatory authorities. These set the company apart from most others operating in the region, giving it a capacity to deliver complex special mission modifications for both civil and military customers.

The company's customers include airlines, commuter, corporate, general aviation, rotary wing and special mission operators, governments and the military.

2. **Bell 429 Helicopter** is quite possibly the most advanced light twin IFR helicopter ever created. Incredibly fast, impeccably appointed and more spacious than any helicopter in its class. Intelligently designed and highly adaptable to address an array of individual needs.

It's how those who have arrived choose to travel.

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