

Airbus Helicopters enhances its support and services capability in China

Nearly 15 new helicopters now covered by HCare Smart global support contracts

Airbus Helicopters is demonstrating its commitment and determination to better support its Chinese customers at the 13th China International Aviation & Aerospace Exhibition in the city of Zhuhai in China's southern Guangdong Province.

On the opening day of the show, Airbus Helicopters signed a Strategic Cooperation Agreement and an HCare Smart Parts By Hour (PBH) contract with State Grid General Aviation Company (SGGAC), enhancing its support and services capability with more localised solutions.

The Strategic Cooperation Agreement will enable SGGAC to expand the activities of its existing MRO Centre, which became an official Airbus Helicopters customer service centre in October 2018, responsible for H125 aircraft maintenance.

As one of Airbus Helicopters' most important Chinese customers, SGGAC currently operates 15 H125s, China's largest H125 fleet. The expanded authorisation will further improve reassembly services for Chinese customers and enhance H125 fleet development in the country.

In addition, SGGAC becomes China's second HCare Smart customer with the signing of a PBH contract covering its H225 and H215.

PBH is one of Airbus Helicopters' customised HCare global support programmes that guarantees the supply of spare parts and repaired parts at a fixed rate per flight hour. To meet the needs of PBH customers, the company maintains a dedicated pool of parts supported by a large global logistics network. The service enables operators to enhance their helicopter fleet availability, reduce inventory costs and stabilise maintenance expenses.

SGGAC joins HCare alongside CITIC Offshore Helicopter Company (COHC), which became China's first PBH customer in 2019. COHC operates one of the largest Airbus helicopter fleets in Asia Pacific with nearly 50 aircraft. In May 2021, COHC's H225 fleet became the world's largest H225 fleet enrolled with HCare Smart when a 12th H225 joined the PBH programme.

Today, there are 56 Super Pumas in China flying a range of demanding missions, such as oil & gas, search and rescue, fire-fighting, and even power line construction. Globally, more than 700 Super Pumas are flying in the world today, among which 140 are H225s. Nearly one third of Super Pumas are enrolled with HCare global support contracts.

HCare is Airbus Helicopters' comprehensive services offering, delivering tailor-made and competitive solutions to customers. It spans five domains: material management, helicopter maintenance, technical support, training and flight operations, and connected services, with experts available on-call 24/7. The HCare material management service starts out with Easy (on-request catalogue services) and Smart (four by-the-hour options), before progressively building up to Infinite (full availability commitments).

Quelle:

Airbus Press Release 28 September 2021

China Continues Crackdown, Arrests Executives Of Conglomerate: Report

Chen Feng, HNA's chairman, and Tan Xiangdong, the company's CEO, were arrested and taken into custody Friday over suspected crimes in Hainan Province

China is continuing its crackdown against the top business figures of the country as it recently arrested two executives of renowned HNA Group, a media report said.

Chen Feng, HNA's chairman, and Tan Xiangdong, the company's CEO, were arrested and taken into custody Friday over suspected crimes in Hainan Province, where HNA is headquartered, New York Post reported.

HNA Group -- a bankrupt conglomerate -- crumbled earlier this year after racking up nearly \$90 billion in debt.

So far the details of charges against the executives have not been revealed.

Chinese officials in January this year launched bankruptcy proceedings against the company and within days, HNA subsidiaries said billions of dollars in funds had been misused, according to New York Post.

Ads by

HNA Group started its business with Hainan Airlines and expanded aggressively in the 2010s. It had bought major stakes in global companies like the Hilton hotel chain, Dutch transport group TIP Trailer Services and Deutsche Bank.

The arrest of the top executive came at a time when Beijing is trying to deal with their homebound debt-reliant companies like property developer Evergrande Group without sending panic throughout the country's credit markets.

Quelle:

NDTV 25 September 2021

Exclusive: Future AWACS to be unmanned, integrated: designer

The future airborne early warning aircraft and control system (AWACS) will be unmanned and integrated for future warfare, a major developer told the Global Times on Thursday at the Airshow China held in Zhuhai, South China's Guangdong Province.

Zhang Shaofeng, deputy manager of Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC) Shaanxi Aircraft Corporation, told the Global Times that the AWACS will be a vital element for future warfare, which will require integrated clusters of various types of aircraft.

This will require AWACS to be unmanned and more intelligent, according to Zhang.

As to when China can promote new airborne early warning aircraft technology, Zhou Guoqiang, an AVIC spokesperson, said that as every country will make great efforts to improve its early warning aircraft, so will China.

"We would put forward [new technologies or products] whenever the country needs them,"

Zhou said.

KJ-500 AWACS, developed by AVIC, is on display at the airshow in Zhuhai. According to Zhou, the system is currently being used by the People's Liberation Army.

When talking about the capabilities of China's AWACS, Lu Jun, chief designer of AVIC's KJ-2000 early warning aircraft, said at a seminar in July that the KJ-2000, China's first operational AWACS, is one full generation ahead of the US' E-3C AWACS and E-2C Hawkeye thanks to its phased array radar technology, citing a commentary by the US-based Jamestown Foundation in 2010.

The KJ-500 is one more generation ahead of the KJ-2000, meaning that China's AWACS is now leading the US by two generations, Lu said.

Cui Jixian, executive deputy designer of China's KJ-500 early warning aircraft and chief designer of the country's next-generation AWACS, said at the same July seminar that future AWACS would definitely become an information network system that includes not just one single aircraft, but a cluster of platforms that can either operate together or alone.

These platforms would play their specially designed roles based on the demands of combat missions, with the final goal being winning the war, Cui said, noting that both large and small AWACS platforms are future trends.

Quelle:

Global Times 30 September 2021

China to reveal new progress on next-gen carrier-based fighter in 2021: chief designer

China will reveal new progress on its next-generation aircraft carrier-based fighter jet this year, the maker of the aircraft said on Wednesday at the ongoing Airshow China 2021 in Zhuhai, South China's Guangdong Province.

"When the aircraft is ready, people will get to see it," Sun Cong, chief designer of the J-15, China's first-generation aircraft carrier-based fighter jet, said at a press conference at the exhibition.

"This year, people should be able to see good news on the next-generation aircraft carrier-based fighter jet," said Sun, who is also the chief designer of the FC-31, China's second stealth fighter jet.

The FC-31 has been a long-rumored candidate to become the country's next-generation carrier-based fighter since its flight performance debut at the Airshow China 2014.

If the FC-31 prototype is upgraded to suit the needs of carrier operation, it could be a top option for China's next-generation carrier-based fighter jet, Fu Qianshao, a Chinese military

aviation expert, told the Global Times.

The FC-31, originally developed for the purpose of exporting, is also on display at the Airshow China 2021.

A scale model of the FC-31 is displayed at an entrance of the exhibition hall of the state-owned Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), together with models of a PL-15E very-long-range air-to-air missile, PL-10E short-range air-to-air missile and LS-6/250 precision glide bomb.

While refusing to make a direct comment on the speculations around the aircraft, Zhou Guoqiang, general manager assistant at AVIC, told a group of reporters in a preview visit to the exhibition shortly prior to the opening on Tuesday that the FC-31 reflects China's strength, and is a key achievement in the "20" aircraft family, together with the J-20 stealth fighter jet, Y-20 large transport plane and Z-20 utility helicopter.

Quelle:

Global Times 29 September 2021

Boeing, U.S. Air Force Extend C-17 Sustainment Partnership with Phased Contract Valued at Up To \$23.8 Billion

- Performance-based logistics agreement reduces support costs while adding work scope
- Boeing supports global fleet of 275 aircraft operated by the U.S. Air Force and eight global partners

Boeing (NYSE: BA) will continue assuring the C-17 Globemaster III's worldwide mission readiness through a follow-on contract awarded by the U.S. Department of Defense, valued at up to \$23.8 billion including potential options and incentives over ten years. The program is currently funded through September 2024 with a Phase I award of \$3.5 billion.

Under the agreement, Boeing will continue performing critical sustainment activities, including engineering, field support, and material management, for the global fleet of 275 aircraft. The contract provides additional funding for new work scope such as international staffing to augment maintenance efforts and cyber security work statement.

"The C-17 continues to serve as the strategic airlift workhorse for the nation, as evidenced by its impressive performance in the recent airlift of more than 124,000 evacuees from Afghanistan in an around-the-clock operation," said Brig. Gen. Darren Cole, Air Mobility Command (AMC) director of Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection. "As the command responsible for operating the U.S. Air Force C-17 fleet, AMC looks forward to the continued partnership with our Boeing teammates as we work to keep the Globemaster fleet healthy for years to come."

This performance-based logistics (PBL) contract builds on more than two decades of successful C-17 sustainment, where Boeing has worked closely with the U.S. Air Force and global partners to maintain high mission-capability rates and continuously improve

affordability. While sustainment costs typically rise as a fleet ages, Boeing will lower operating cost per-flight-hour for the global fleet under the new agreement.

"We are bending the cost curve on platforms like the C-17 by leveraging the breadth and depth of Boeing's services capabilities and expertise worldwide, and by applying digital tools and analytics to drive predictability and performance into every C-17 mission," said Dan Gillian, vice president & general manager of U.S. Government Services for Boeing Global Services.

"Working in partnership with our military customers, we are deriving data insight from these aircraft that is improving readiness and increasing fleet efficiency," Gillian added. "Analytical insights provide actionable intelligence to predict component failures, troubleshoot errors with greater speed and accuracy, complete repairs faster, and support aircrew decision making."

Boeing has been under contract for PBL support of the C-17 fleet since 1998. This new \$3.5 billion Phase I award is expected to be ordered by the Air Force through 2024. Under a PBL arrangement, a customer receives an agreed-to level of system readiness, as opposed to a traditional contract for specific spare parts and support services. This integrated logistics approach has allowed Boeing to apply innovative tools to maximize aircraft availability while lowering costs.

The global C-17 fleet boasts best-in-class aircraft availability rates while operating as the strategic airlift workhorse for the U.S. Air Force and global partners. In January 2020, the C-17 fleet became one of the fastest to achieve four million flight hours. The United States, Australia, Canada, India, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the 12-nation Strategic Airlift Capability all operate the C-17 Globemaster III.

Quelle:

Boeing Press Release 29 September 2021

Pentagon And Lockheed Martin Agree To F-35 Production Rebaseline

Updated schedule ensures production predictability and stability

The F-35 Joint Program Office (JPO) and the Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) industry team have agreed on an F-35 production rebaseline that ensures predictability and stability in the production process while recovering the aircraft shortfall realized over the last year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With this agreement, Lockheed Martin is scheduled to deliver 133-139 aircraft this year, 151-153 aircraft in 2022 and anticipates delivering 156 aircraft beginning in 2023 and for the foreseeable future.

More than 700 F-35s have been delivered and are operating from 21 bases around the globe. More than 1,460 pilots and 11,025 maintainers have been trained and the F-35 fleet has surpassed 430,000 cumulative flight hours.

Quelle:

Lockheed Martin Press Release 27 September 2021

Ein neues Video von Diehl Metering unterstreicht die Mission der Marke

Bei Diehl Metering steht alles, was wir tun, im Zeichen der Nachhaltigkeit. Unser Ziel ist es, dauerhafte und verantwortungsvolle Wertschöpfung für unseren Planeten, unsere Mitarbeiter und unsere Kunden zu schaffen.

In einem neuen Video skizzieren wir die drei Hauptpfeiler dieser Markenmission: 1. Die Zufriedenheit unserer Kunden steht an erster Stelle; 2. Unsere Mitarbeiter sind unser Antrieb; und 3. Verantwortung ist unsere Verpflichtung.

Diese Leitprinzipien sind für uns nicht verhandelbar. Deshalb ermöglichen wir unseren Kunden, einen dauerhaften Mehrwert für ihr Unternehmen und für die Umwelt zu schaffen. Deshalb geben wir unseren Teams die Möglichkeit, innovativ zu sein und für Menschen auf der ganzen Welt einen echten Unterschied zu machen. Und deshalb geben wir den Gemeinden die Möglichkeit, wirtschaftlicher und verantwortungsvoller mit Wasser und Energie umzugehen.

Das ist unsere Mission. Auf diese Weise engagieren wir uns für die Herausforderungen von heute. Und so ermöglichen wir eine nachhaltige Zukunft.

Quelle:

Diehl Press Release 23 September 2021

Nachfrageboom in die USA

- **Verdreifachung der Ticketverkäufe über den Nordatlantik**
- **Top-Seller: New York und Florida**
- **Zusätzliche Verbindungen innerhalb Deutschlands aufgrund der hohen Nachfrage**

Rund eine Woche nach der angekündigten Rücknahme der Reiserestriktionen in die USA verzeichnen die Airlines der Lufthansa Group einen weiter ansteigenden Nachfrageboom nach Flügen in die USA. In der vergangenen Woche wurden an einzelnen Tagen rund dreimal mehr Flüge über den Nordatlantik gebucht als in der Woche zuvor. Die Nachfrage in der vergangenen Woche erreichte auf einigen Strecken nahezu das Vorkrisenniveau. Am häufigsten wurden Flüge von Frankfurt und Zürich nach New York und Miami gebucht, mit hoher Nachfrage sowohl von Privat- als auch Geschäftsreisenden. In Premium Economy, Business und First Class wurden insgesamt in die USA in der vergangenen Woche deutlich mehr Tickets gekauft als im Vergleichszeitraum 2019.

Auf den Nachfrage-Boom reagieren die Airlines nun mit der kurzfristigen Aufnahme von zusätzlichen Flügen in die USA. So werden die Airlines Lufthansa und Swiss ab November kurzfristig insgesamt drei tägliche Flüge nach Miami anbieten.

Besonders stark nachgefragt sind USA Flüge für den kommenden Dezember. Die Neubuchungen in der vergangenen Woche für diesen Monat waren genauso hoch, wie im Vergleichszeitraum 2019. Die traditionell in der Weihnachtszeit gut gebuchten New York-Flüge wurden bereits um zusätzliche Umläufe ergänzt. Die Airlines der Lufthansa Group

bieten im Dezember aus ihren Drehkreuzen bis zu 55 wöchentliche Verbindungen nach New York an. Eine weitere kurzfristige Angebotserweiterung wird zurzeit geprüft.

Allein nach New York und Chicago bieten die Airlines der Lufthansa Group im November mehr tägliche Flüge an, als Flüge in die gesamte Region Asien-Pazifik. Von der Öffnung der USA für geimpfte EU-Reisende verspricht sich der Konzern ein wegweisendes Signal für andere Länder und Regionen, internationale Flugreisen wieder zu erleichtern und Reiserestriktionen zurückzunehmen.

Zusätzliche Flüge auch innerhalb Deutschlands

Aufgrund der weiter wachsenden Nachfrage werden auch die Flüge innerhalb Deutschlands und zu den Lufthansa Drehkreuzen verstärkt. Im Vergleich zum Juli stockt beispielsweise Lufthansa ihre innerdeutschen Verbindungen ab Oktober um 45 Prozent auf. Das bedeutet unter anderem, dass es von Frankfurt nach Berlin statt der derzeit sechs täglichen Verbindungen ab Oktober neun tägliche Anbindungen und von Frankfurt nach Hamburg statt sechs täglichen Verbindungen acht tägliche Flugreisemöglichkeiten geben wird. Ähnlich sieht es für München aus: Statt der derzeit fünf täglichen Verbindungen stehen ab Oktober sieben tägliche Verbindungen nach Berlin und statt sechs täglichen Verbindungen nach Hamburg zukünftig bis zu elf tägliche Flüge im Flugplan. Am Morgen und Abend fliegt Lufthansa ab Oktober wieder im Stundentakt von Hamburg und Berlin in die Drehkreuze Frankfurt und München.

Durch diese Flugplanerweiterung mit einem dichteren Flugangebot über den gesamten Tag hinweg profitieren Geschäftsreisende, die häufig am Tagesrand fliegen möchten, genauso wie alle anderen Reisenden von einer verbesserten Auswahl.

Quelle:

Lufthansa Press Release 28 September 2021

Jörg Eberhart wird Strategiechef der Lufthansa Group

Zum 1. Oktober 2021 übernimmt Jörg Eberhart, derzeit CEO von Air Dolomiti, die Position „Head of Strategy & Organizational Development“ der Lufthansa Group. Er tritt die Nachfolge von William Wilms an, der zum 1. September 2021 in den Vorstand der Lufthansa Technik berufen wurde.

Seit 2014 ist Jörg Eberhart als Präsident und CEO von Air Dolomiti tätig. In dieser Zeit war er ebenfalls Mitglied der Geschäftsführung von Lufthansa CityLine. Zuvor hatte er verschiedene leitende Positionen bei Lufthansa inne, unter anderem beim Aufbau der Aerologic GmbH und bei der Umsetzung des Projektes SCORE.

Jörg Eberhart studierte Wirtschaftswissenschaften an der Universität in Tübingen und hält eine Pilotenlizenz für das Flugzeugmuster Airbus A320.

Quelle:

Lufthansa Press Release 03 September 2021