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## **Airbus Helicopters completes delivery of final two H135s to Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force**

- The two rotorcraft complete the delivery of 15 H135s on order, designated as TH-135 in Japan
- Fleet to be used for advanced training missions

Tokyo, 15 December 2015 – Airbus Helicopters has successfully handed over the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> H135 training helicopters to the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). This marks the delivery completion of 15 H135s over the last six years. Designated as TH-135 by JMSDF, the 13 units delivered prior have been in operation since 2011.

The TH-135 is a variant of Airbus Helicopters' light twin-engine H135, specially customized for JMSDF's specific requirements for advanced training missions. The H135 was selected as the replacement for its single-engine training helicopter fleet, thanks to its unrivalled performance and easy maintenance which translates to high availability rate.

"We are delighted to be able to deliver all fifteen TH-135s on time," said Stephane Ginoux, Managing Director of Airbus Helicopters Japan. "We are committed to upkeep the highest quality of safety and efficiency of their training missions by providing prompt parts procurement, maintenance and technical support services."

The H135 is one of Airbus Helicopter's most successful light twin-engine helicopters in the 3-ton class, with a seating capacity of seven to eight passengers (five for TH-135). It provides higher payload over longer distances than other rotorcraft in its category, and delivers supreme performance envelope along with low fuel consumption. Other features include the use of a bearingless main rotor and Airbus Helicopters' signature Fenestron® shrouded tail rotor. The results are enhanced cost effectiveness, noise reduction and ground safety.

In Japan, there are currently 80 H135s operating for emergency medical services, police work, electronic news gathering, VIP transport and business aviation.

### **About Airbus Helicopters Japan**

Airbus Helicopters Japan, formerly Eurocopter Japan, was established in 2009 as the Japanese subsidiary of Airbus Helicopters, a division of Airbus Group. It is the first foreign affiliated aircraft manufacturer to carry out direct sales, training, and customer support activities in the Japanese aeronautical sector. There are approximately 300 employees allocated at four locations, including Tokyo and Kobe. With more than 50 years of in-country presence, Airbus Helicopters Japan confirms its leadership position with a 54 percent market share overall in Japan (civil and parapublic sectors). Airbus Helicopters Japan makes Japan's sky safer, more reliable and cost-efficient by providing high quality products and services.

**About Airbus Helicopters** ([www.airbushelicopters.com](http://www.airbushelicopters.com))

Airbus Helicopters is a division of Airbus Group. The company provides the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions to its customers who serve, protect, save lives and safely carry passengers in highly demanding environments. Flying more than 3 million flight hours per year, the company's in-service fleet includes some 12,000 helicopters operated by more than 3,000 customers in 152 countries. Airbus Helicopters employs more than 23,000 people worldwide and in 2014 generated revenues of 6.5 billion Euros. In line with the company's new identity, fully integrated into Airbus Group, Airbus Helicopters has renamed its product range replacing the former "EC" designation with an "H".

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