MedFlight of Ohio and HealthNet Aeromedical Services To Expand Fleet
Two American Eurocopters to Be Added

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. – American Eurocopter has announced that MedFlight of Ohio and HealthNet Aeromedical Services will expand their all-Eurocopter fleets. The announcement was made during the annual Air Medical Transport Conference in Virginia Beach. Based in Columbus, MedFlight of Ohio is taking possession of two additional leased EC130s, which will be completed by Metro Aviation. One of the aircraft will be based in Jeffersonville, Ohio, located between Columbus and Cincinnati.

“Our EC130s have performed flawlessly since replacing our old fleet in 2011,” said Rod Crane, MedFlight of Ohio CEO. “The aircraft are accumulating hours quickly but maintain the high level of dispatch reliability we need to serve our member and affiliate hospitals. Safety and patient care are the prime directives at MedFlight and our EC130s fit the bill perfectly.’
MedFlight has safely transported more than 15,000 patients over the past 26 years. Formed through the merger of two competing hospital air medical programs, one of MedFlight’s consortium members was the first nonprofit urban hospital sponsored program in the U.S. to base a helicopter in a rural community. The move effectively reduced response time for patients.

MedFlight of Ohio contracts with Metro Aviation for helicopter services, currently leasing eight other EC130s already in service, as well as an additional EC130 shared with HealthNet Aeromedical Services on the tri-state borders of Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky.

Based in Charleston, W.Va., HealthNet Aeromedical Services is also a loyal American Eurocopter customer, recently purchasing both an EC130 B4, as well as an EC135. Scheduled to enter service in 2014, the new EC130 B4 and EC135 will replace older aircraft. HealthNet Aeromedical Services currently owns three EC135s and one EC145, and leases five EC130s, including the EC130 it shares with MedFlight of Ohio.

“We have operated Eurocopter aircraft exclusively since the inception of HealthNet Aeromedical Services,” said Clinton Burley, President and Chief Executive of HealthNet Aeromedical Services. “Constant product improvements and the ability to choose different models to meet our varied transport needs from one manufacturer are really beneficial. Our commitment to operational safety, high quality patient care and reliability make Eurocopter the best choice.”

HealthNet Aeromedical Services is one of the few statewide hospital-based air medical services in the U.S. and serves as a model for cost effective, cooperative aeromedical services in a rural environment. The fleet serves West Virginia and significant portions of Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Tennessee. Each helicopter base is responsible for providing service in a 150-nautical-mile radius.

The EC130 brings together the powerful engine, dual-channel Full Authority Digital Engine Control (FADEC) and dual hydraulics of the AS350 B3e with an enlarged cabin interior and Fenestron® anti-torque tail rotor. Combining low operating costs with the roomiest cabin size in its class, the EC130 is rapidly becoming a popular choice for EMS missions, while the EC135 has established itself as one of the premier helicopters in the U.S. air medical market. Worldwide, there are more than 1,100 EC135s in service, with about 50 percent of them working in emergency medical services.

For more information on the EC130, EC135 and other industry leading helicopters, go to www.eurocopterusa.com.

HealthNet Aeromedical Services, Inc., is a not-for-profit critical care transport system operated cooperatively by Charleston Area Medical Center, Cabell Huntington Hospital, and WVU Healthcare. Formed in 1986, HealthNet has transported over 70,000 patients with a perfect safety record.

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