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Finmeccanica: Norway purchases 16 AgustaWestland AW101 for a value of EUR 1.15 billion

AgustaWestland, a Finmeccanica company, has been awarded a contract worth about EUR 1.15 billion to supply 16 AW101 search & rescue (SAR) helicopters to Norway. The contract includes support and training and an option for six further aircraft.

Aircraft deliveries to the Royal Norwegian Air Force will start in 2017 and continue through to 2020. As part of the contract, a fifteen year “turnkey” support solution will be delivered, comprising spares and technical support and training services. The SAR configuration of the AW101 for Norway includes a multi panel AESA surveillance radar system from Selex ES, a Finmeccanica company. Moreover, to support pilot training, a full flight simulator will be available in Norway in 2016, before the delivery of the first aircraft.

“The choice of the Norwegian government – Gianni De Gennaro, Chairman of Finmeccanica declares - is further testimony of the AgustaWestland’s global leadership both in terms of credibility and of technological value of the solutions offered to the market”.

“This success - Alessandro Pansa, CEO of Finmeccanica, declares - comes at the end of a complex selection process that considered strict technical criteria related to the assessment of the product. Once again AW101 is proving to be the best in its class and a valid response to the stringent requirements issued by the Commission in charge of the selection. A even more important result considering the context in which we operate, marked by a strong competition and in which are rewarded companies like Finmeccanica, able to support the customer throughout the life cycle of the product”.

Finmeccanica is Italy's main industrial group, leader in the high technology field, and ranks among the top ten groups at world level in the Aerospace, Defence and Security sectors. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (FNC IM; SIFI.MI), with revenues of approximately 17 billion Euro, over 68,000 employees, 150 operating and commercial locations and 345 production facilities in 50 different countries world-wide, Finmeccanica is an international and multicultural group with an important presence in its four domestic markets: Italy, United Kingdom, the United States and Poland. Finmeccanica's success is based on its technological excellence, which springs from conspicuous investments in Research & Development (amounting to 12% of the revenues), and the constant efforts it makes to develop and integrate the skills, know-how and values of its operating companies. Finmeccanica is active in the following sectors: Helicopters (AgustaWestland), Defence Electronics and Security (Selex ES, DRS) and Aeronautics (Alenia Aermacchi) – which represent its core business – and it is also well positioned in the sectors of Space (Telespazio, Thales Alenia Space), Defence Systems (Oto Melara, WASS, MBDA), Energy (Ansaldo Energia) and Transportation (Ansaldo STS, AnsaldoBreda, BredaMenarinibus).