

FEATURED MANUFACTURER UK Robinson R44 Fleet Reaches 300

By early-May, the UK helicopter fleet reached the landmark of 300 Robinson R44s registered with the CAA. The R44 is already the helicopter type holding the UK record of the greatest number of examples concurrently registered.

The UK R44 fleet made the 100 mark in December 2000 and topped 200 in February 2005, and will no doubt continue to rise while the Dollar/Pound exchange rate favours the UK.

With the fleet increasing at an average of four aircraft a month, the demand is high.



Robinson Helicopter Co currently has two distributors covering UK and Eire, Sloane Helicopters and Heli Air, and we understand that RHC intend to add others to that list in the not-too-distant future.

The market for R44s is such that most of the UK aircraft are being advance-ordered so a purchaser does not have to have the patience required for RHC's production backlog. Sloane Helicopters started pre-ordering in this way late in 2006, and while Heli Air do not directly engage in this approach, they work closely with Select Helicopters who have pre-ordered through Heli-Air since 2005.

- More information visit - www.robinsonheli.com
- More information visit - www.sloanehelicopters.co.uk
- More information visit - www.heli-air.com

FLIGHT TRAINING Cabair Flying Schools Takes Delivery of Two Schweizer 300CBi™ Helicopters

Cabair Flying Schools, the UK-based group that has been training pilots for nearly four decades, has taken delivery of its first two 300CBi™ helicopters from Schweizer Aircraft. The new helicopters purchased through Schweizer's UK representative, CSE Aircraft Sales, join Cabair's fleet of more than 150 aircraft.

Cabair operates seven private pilot license schools around the London area and additional commercial pilot training schools in the UK, Spain, USA, Canada and the UAE.



Derek Edwards, Director of Cabair Flying Schools, said, "The new helicopters will be used at the private pilot license schools for training and self-fly hire. We have a substantial number of helicopter pilot members who deserve an exciting alternative helicopter to fly."

CSE Aircraft Sales, Schweizer Aircraft's distributor in the UK, sold the aircraft to Cabair. "Cabair has an outstanding reputation for flight training in the United Kingdom, and we are confident that the Schweizer 300CBi helicopter will be a successful component of their operation," said CSE Managing Director Steve Jones. "We look forward to working with them in the future."

- More information visit - www.sacusa.com
- More information visit - www.cabairflyingschools.com
- More information visit - www.cseaircraftsales.com

DISTRIBUTOR NEWS Expanding Orders Boost for Sloane Helicopters

The Sloane Helicopters fleet is expanding fast. Rising orders for AgustaWestland helicopters in Ireland is feeding back to the U.K. based distributor as demand for charter management services.

Sales director Giorgio Bondoni says that all 13 of the helicopters being delivered by Sloane in 2007 have been snapped up by Irish corporate and private owners. "About half of these have come to us for charter management," he adds.

The Sloane managed charter fleet has doubled in average size in the past four years. The 13 aircraft sold in 2007 consist of five Grand, five 109E Power, two 119 Koala and one 139.

Four-year Agreement Concluded with AgustaWestland Sloane has concluded a four-year agreement with AgustaWestland taking a minimum of ten aircraft in 2006, 11 in 2007, 11 in 2008 and 12 in 2009. The seven aircraft pre-sold in 2008 comprise four Grand, two 109E Power and one 119 Koala. Some of the helicopters available for 2009 have already been ordered.

- For more information visit - www.sloanehelicopters.co.uk

INTERIORS HELITOWCART's Express Refurbishing for AS350s

Helitowcart, the manufacturer of towing devices is now introducing accessories in its continuous aim at making work in the helicopter industry more efficient. Over the past year it has released BearPaws for the North American market, and is now introducing the HeliCushion to the American and European markets.

This cushion and cover kit is especially made for instant refurbishing of AS350 helicopter seats. The objective is to considerably improve the process of getting seats rejuvenated. The HeliCushion fits all six seat



Left: Base Layer. Centre: Coating Layer. Right: Cover Layer

positions and is installed in seconds. As well, the product aims at providing extra support and comfort to pilots. The combination of various foams, fire retardant coating and easy maintenance cover material provide extra value. A fresh idea contributing to improved efficiency!

- More information visit - www.helitowcart.com

AVIONICS L-3 Wescam's Spanish Service

L-3 Communications is establishing an International Service Center Agreement with Indra Sistemas, S.A, a Spanish Information Technologies and Defense Systems company, to create an industry-leading International Service Center (ISC) in Spain. Equipped with the latest - generation technology, this facility is scheduled to open in July 2007.



qualified technicians, loaner systems and on-site service, the quick repair-response created by this center will further decrease service turnaround time.

- More information visit - www.wescam.com

Indra's maintenance facility will offer

customers a greater level of service support. With direct access to local maintenance facilities, engineering services,