PRESS RELEASE

SCHIEBEL CAMCOPTER™ VTOL UAV SELECTED FOR AAMIS PROGRAM IN GERMANY

An evaluation performed in 1998 by IABG on behalf of the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement (BWB) resulted in the recommendation to use CAMCOPTERTM as the most suitable platform for the AAMIS (Airborne Minefield Reconnaissance) Technology Program. IABG evaluated all relevant candidate UAVs with reference to the requirements of the German Army.

The IABG, a company specialized in the field of testing and evaluation systems for BWB and German Forces, evaluated the ability of a Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) UAV to carry the multispectral sensor package for stand-off minefield detection. The sensor package is designed by Bodenseewerk Geraete Technik in Ueberlingen, Germany.

The next phase of the AAMIS Program will include feasibility demonstration and optimization of the platform for the sensors, including a possible increase of the payload capability. Field trials are planned for mid 1999. Procurement of the AAMIS System is scheduled for the year 2006 and following.

The CAMCOPTERTM was developed and is manufactured by Schiebel Elektronische Geraete GmbH (SEG) of Vienna, Austria. Schiebel is principally involved in the development and manufacture of unmanned aerial vehicles for a multitude of military, police, and civilian applications, including surveillance, target acquisition, communication relay, and NBC or EW detection.

The CAMCOPTERTM, a compact rotary-wing Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (helicopter), provides fully autonomous vertical take-off, landing, and hover capability. It can be preprogrammed to fly along preselected routes or can be directed manually by a joystick. The system is designed to carry a variety of sensors and payloads to meet the requirements of potential users.

The CAMCOPTER[™] is operable in all weather conditions; it is modular, lightweight, and transportable by light vehicles. The unique INS- and GPS-based autonomous flight capability of the CAMCOPTER[™] provides users with a safe and easy-to-operate aerial platform that is highly adaptable to a wide range of missions requiring extended surveillance activity under virtually any threat or operational scenario.

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