SCHIEBEL PRESS

CAMCOPTER® S-100 COMPLETES EXTENSIVE GERMAN NAVY FLIGHT TRIALS

Vienna, 29 September 2008 – Building on its unrivalled position as a proven VTOL Maritime UAS, the CAMCOPTER® S-100 has recently completed its toughest test to date, three weeks of demanding flights in the Baltic Sea onboard the new K130 Class Corvettes of the German Navy.

The German Forces have, as do other NATO nations, a recognised capability gap for Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) platforms that in particular could be filled by unmanned aerial systems. As part of the German Navy's strategy to fill this gap in the maritime environment and use Unmanned Air Vehicle Systems (UAS) in their future Force Mix, the German MoD decided to conduct integration trials of the CAMCOPTER® S-100 onboard the new K130 Class Corvettes of the German Navy. In particular, these trials were to substantiate the integration and operation of a Vertical Takeoff and Landing (VTOL) UAS and to start to formulate the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for employing this UAS.

After a thorough phase of investigation and market research by the German MoD, which took place during 2006 and 2007, the CAMCOPTER® S-100 from the Austrian Company Schiebel was chosen as a basis for further work. It has been in service with several countries since 2006 and has previously been proven in the seagoing environment with Indian, Pakistani and Spanish Maritime agencies. Compared to its competitors, it offers the Maritime Forces a proven and reliable system in the harsh environment of operating at sea. It has a Maximum Take Off Weight (MTOW) of 200 kg, can carry 50 kg of payloads and, with an operating radius of up to 180 km, provides endurance in excess of 6 hours. Whether the requirement is Force Protection or Force Projection, either in the littoral or beyond sight of land, the CAMCOPTER® S-100 is ideally suited.

As part of a study contract, three one-week campaigns took place during the summer of 2008 in the Baltic Sea. The campaigns proceeded exactly as planned without incident and of note, the test parameters were extended beyond the original requirements. Indeed, both parties can report that the campaigns have been an impressive success for both the German Navy and for Schiebel. The tests proved essential for de-risking the operation of UAS at sea to date as well as supporting the development of concepts on how the German Navy will efficiently and effectively employ UAS for reconnaissance at sea.

In all, the CAMCOPTER® S-100 completed more than 130 takeoffs in a total flight time of more than 20 hours, landings from the "single spot" corvettes with relative winds from all possible directions (both ahead and abaft the beam). The relative wind speeds were as high as 40 knots over the flight deck, at more than 8 degrees roll angle of the K130 Class

Corvettes and MTOWs in excess of 190 kg. Of significance, the CAMCOPTER® S-100 comfortably withstood roll angles of the flight deck in excess of +/- 15 degrees, even with a wet flight deck at times. The results were well in excess of expectations and trial requirements.

In summary, both parties are extremely pleased to report that the unique and challenging UAS trials on board the K130 Class Corvettes on the waters of the Baltic Sea using the Schiebel CAMCOPTER® S-100 VTOL UAS have been successfully completed with the objectives achieved. The trial has been a major step forward in developing the requirements for the utilization of the CAMCOPTER® S-100 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems in the maritime environment by the German Navy.

***About Schiebel*:**
Founded in 1951, the Vienna-based Schiebel Group of companies focuses on the development, testing and production of state-of-the-art mine detection equipment and the acclaimed CAMCOPTER® S-100 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle System. Schiebel has built an international reputation for producing quality defence and humanitarian products, which are backed by exceptional after-sales service and support. All products are quality controlled to meet ISO 9001 standards. With headquarters in Vienna, Austria, Schiebel now maintains production facilities in Wiener Neustadt, Austria, and Abu Dhabi, UAE, as well as offices in Warrenton, VA, USA, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

About the CAMCOPTER® S-100:
Schiebel's latest CAMCOPTER® S-100 UAS has been developed to carry various sensors for both military and civilian applications. The Aerial Vehicle (AV) is launched automatically via VTOL, eliminating the need for a prepared area or additional launch and recovery equipment. It navigates via pre-programmed GPS waypoints, or can be operated manually through a simple, yet highly stable, flight control system. The CAMCOPTER® S-100, like its predecessor, is capable of landing on helicopter deck-equipped ships without the use of additional landing equipment. Its AV fuselage is a carbon fibre monocoque providing maximum capacity for a wide range of payload/endurance combinations.

About Diehl BGT Defence:
Diehl BGT Defence GmbH & Co, KG, a company of the corporate division Diehl Defence, headquartered in Überlingen, Germany, is a leading defence contractor. The company is a system house and competence centre for seeker-guided missiles, intelligent and conventional ammunition as well as training and simulation systems. Moreover, it has established itself in the markets of reconnaissance and surveillance, protection and security with sophisticated technological solutions. In June 2007, Diehl BGT Defence GmbH & Co. KG, Überlingen, Germany, and Schiebel prolonged their cooperation agreement on marketing the CAMCOPTER® S-100 for the German Armed Forces. Diehl BGT Defence's workshare comprises ship-board integration, sensors and logistics.

SCHIEBEL PRESS

For further information, please contact:

Schiebel Elektronische Geraete GmbH
Irene Schiebel, Eva Raidl
Margaretenstrasse 112, 1050 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43 (1) 546 26-44, Fax: +43 (1) 545 23 39
Email: irene.schiebel@schiebel.net
eva.raidl@schiebel.net
www.schiebel.net

Diehl VA Systeme Stiftung & Co. KG,
Paul Sonnenschein, Director Public Relations
P.O.Box 10 12 55, 88642 Ueberlingen
Tel: +49 755189-2685, Fax: +49 755189-4835
E-mail: pr@diehl-va-systeme.de