

Patria and Schiebel work to fit MUM-T technology to Camcopter UAS



Patria and Schiebel are working to integrate the former's Compact Airborne Networking Data Link (CANDL) communication network onto the latter's Camcopter S-100 rotary-wing unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), it was announced on 30 March.

The effort by the Finnish-Norwegian and Austrian companies is being conducted with the goal of fielding a Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUM-T) capability for the Camcopter S-100 in support of manned helicopter operations.

MUM-T is the latest 'must have' technology when it comes to enabling the operations of manned helicopters in denied environments. This is especially true for scout and attack helicopters which are typically the first to cross into enemy territory.

UAVs are especially well-suited to the mission sets that are seen as being too 'dull', 'dangerous', or 'dirty', and the scout and attack roles are certainly dangerous. MUM-T technology enables the crew of the manned helicopter to send the UAS out ahead to either scout the area for enemy activity and air defences, or to attack them directly.

COMMENT

The Camcopter has a maximum take-off weight of 200 kg, a typical payload of 50 kg and a range of up to 180 km. It is designed to deliver a persistent endurance of up to six hours for the purposes of force protection, projection or troop surveillance and reconnaissance missions.