

Camcopter continues to impress [CANSEC18D2]



In a groundbreaking demonstration on 17 April, Schiebel's Camcopter S-100 Unmanned Air System (UAS) and Airbus Helicopters' manned H145 successfully completed a series of Manned UnManned Teaming (MUM-T) flights.

Level 5 interoperability was achieved by providing the user onboard the manned aircraft with full command and control over the UAS and its payload, including launch and recovery.

The purpose of the demonstration, which took place as part of a technology partnership between the Austrian Armaments and Defense Technology Agency (ARWT) and Schiebel, was to explore the benefits and challenges of delivering MUM-T flight operations, especially those with highly valuable, mission-enhancing advantages for army aviation. As a true force-multiplier, MUM-T leverages the strengths of both manned and unmanned systems by providing pilots of manned aircraft with the ability to take full advantage of the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities of the UAS and thereby improve safety and decision-making in complex, contested missions.

UASs are perfectly suited for providing an aerial overview, operating above manned assets while the manned assets benefit from using local terrain. This approach of enhancing coverage and timeliness of information while keeping pilots and manned assets safe enables commanders to maximise the advantages offered by both platforms.

Camcopter also featured strongly when Overwatch Imaging successfully integrated PT8 Oceanwatch, a revolutionary small target detection payload. PT-8 Oceanwatch delivers an image-based wide area maritime search capability that significantly extends the coverage area and makes the Camcopter S-100 an even more powerful naval patrol solution.

Oceanwatch autonomously detects small targets on the ocean surface, solving the challenge of searching for small objects over vast areas and greatly outperforming conventional cameras that face insurmountably large areas when zoomed in and invisible targets when zoomed out.

Featuring a user-friendly interface, Oceanwatch is an ideal solution for applications such as ISR gathering, search and rescue, and anti-piracy operations.