

Schiebel makes moves down under



Schiebel Pacific (SPL) has opened a new office and workshop at Albatross Aviation Technical Park in Yerrilyong, New South Wales, and has announced a new cooperation with Air Affairs Australia (AAA).

Opened one year after the business line was established, the new office will place the company in close proximity to the Royal Australian Navy customer at HMAS Albatross, and will facilitate further anticipated expansion over the coming years. It also facilitates close cooperation with new partner AAA, which is a provider of equipment and services to the Australian Defence Force, other government departments and multinational companies.

Schiebel develops the Camcopter S-100 unmanned helicopter, which is currently under contract for the RAN's Navy Minor Project (NMP) 1942 evaluation programme.

As part of the memorandum of understanding signed between the two parties, the companies agree to collaborate on the compilation and submission of request for tender UAV opportunities in Australia and the Pacific region, as well as the subsequent close cooperation in contract delivery, support and services.

'Building on our current contracts, we see enormous potential in Australia for Schiebel and our unrivalled Camcopter S-100 RPAS due to several significant upcoming programmes, and working with established Australian companies will be key to success,' Hans Georg Schiebel, chairman of Schiebel, said.

'A strong physical presence through SPL and a MoU with a strong partner are logical steps in preparing for the tremendous opportunities in Australia, a nation at the forefront of embracing robotic technology and modernising its defence force.'

SPL is working closely with the RAN on achieving all the goals of the project, while simultaneously preparing for upcoming tenders for Australia's LAND and SEA 129 requirements.