



NEWS RELEASE

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US Helicopter Awarded Contract for TH-1H Helicopters

(Ozark, AL., Jan 25, 2006)--US Helicopter, a division of Bell Aerospace Services Inc., and a subsidiary of Bell Helicopter, a Textron Inc. (NYSE: TXT) company, announced today a contract award from Lockheed Martin Integrated Systems for nine TH-1H training helicopters. These aircraft will be used to support the US Air Force undergraduate rotorcraft-training program located at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

Lockheed Martin Integrated Systems is the prime contractor under the USAF Flexible Acquisition and Sustainment Program or FAST program and is responsible for systems integration and program management. US Helicopter, will perform the aircraft refurbishment, modification and flight test at its Ozark, Alabama, facility.

The TH-1H is a Bell UH-1H helicopter with an integrated upgrade kit, or Huey II kit, which encompasses a more powerful engine, and new dynamic components including nose and tailboom. The cockpit and mission equipment upgrades include a change from analog to digital cockpit, the addition of crashworthy seats, and total rewiring.

These modifications literally transform a legacy aircraft into a state-of-the-art training platform compatible with future operational aircraft, explained Hartwell Wilson, General Manager at US Helicopter. This undergraduate training platform develops multiple pilot skills and transitions those skills faster across multiple aircraft. We are proud of our role in turning these talented young men and women into the US Air Force's newest helicopter pilots.

Bell Aerospace Services (www.bellaero.com) provides turnkey aviation maintenance and support services throughout the world. In June 2005, BellAero acquired US Helicopter, which is widely regarded as the premier maintenance and modification center for UH-1 helicopters in the world. Over the last fifteen years, US Helicopter has refurbished over four hundred UH-1 helicopters and installed over one hundred Huey II upgrade kits. BellAero is a subsidiary of Bell Helicopter, a Textron company (NYSE:TXT).

Textron Inc. is a \$10 billion multi-industry company with 44,000 employees in 40 countries. The company leverages its global network of aircraft, industrial and finance businesses to provide customers with innovative solutions and services. Textron is known around the world for its powerful brands such as Bell Helicopter, Cessna Aircraft, Jacobsen, Kautex, Lycoming, E-Z-GO and Greenlee, among others. More information is available at www.textron.com.

**<http://www.bellhelicopter.textron.com>
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