

MEDIA RELEASE
February 17, 2010

EMQ HAILS AUSTRALIAN MADE HELICOPTER STRETCHER LOADER SYSTEM

Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ) Helicopter Rescue Services has praised the deployment of the Australian designed and manufactured MultiDeck Stretcher Loading System.

“We completed a detailed international study of the existing stretcher systems available to install into our new AW139 helicopters, and decided that the locally produced option would best suit our specialised requirements and provide greater flexibility” said Tony Hodgkinson, the Chief Engineer.

The MultiDeck system was designed by HeliMods PTY LTD based at Caloundra Airport, to meet joint requirements of Emergency Management Queensland and Ambulance Service of NSW, who have both recently upgraded to new AW139 helicopters.

The MultiDeck system utilizes modern composite materials along with high performance alloys to produce a lightweight and tough system that allows aircrew to load and position stretcher based patients into the aircraft easily and efficiently.

The system has been designed to meet the most stringent safety requirements associated with the new AW139 helicopters.

The majority of components required to produce the MultiDeck were manufactured by suppliers in South East Queensland, with final assembly completed by HeliMods at their Caloundra facilities.

Trevor Wilson, the EMQ Chief Pilot, said “The HeliMods design option meant that we could provide input to make it perfect for our operational needs.

“Their team was great to work with, and they produced a high quality system which exceeded our expectations.

“Now that the final product is in service, we believe that it is far better than any of the comparable internationally available products in terms of overall functionality and versatility.”

Will Shrapnel, the HeliMods Engineering Manager said “We have had a good deal of international interest in the product, and are currently in discussions with international operators for export sales.

“It’s fantastic to be given the opportunity to showcase the capabilities of our state’s aerospace industry and it gives us great satisfaction to see it flying in the Queensland fleet.”

ABOUT HELIMODS - HeliMods provides helicopter operators with innovative engineering, design, certification, manufacturing and installation solutions to meet their mission specific needs. HeliMods is based on the Sunshine Coast, Australia.

CONTACT:

Paul Watson
(t) +61 7 5491 7990
(m) +61 403 306 407
(f) +61 7 5491 9626
p.watson@helimods.com
www.helimods.com