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ROLLS-ROYCE WORLDWIDE TURBINE HELICOPTER FORECAST PREDICTS CIVIL DELIVERIES TO INCREASE BY UP TO 50 PER CENT

Houston, TX: Rolls-Royce, which offers the broadest range of turboshaft engines for helicopters in the world, today forecast an increase in the civil helicopter business when it announced its annual ten-year forecast of worldwide turbine helicopter deliveries.

Ken Roberts, Acting President of the Rolls-Royce Helicopter business, said: *“The projection of deliveries for the next ten years shows an industry operating at levels approaching capacity. This is due to two reasons, the highly successful sales figures from 2006 and 2007, and the ramping-up of military programs awarded in the last several years.”*

He also believes that the new, light, single-engine turbine helicopter market is about to expand, with entries like the R66 offering turbine performance at prices well below the current entry-level units.

The Rolls-Royce forecast projects deliveries of 15,711 turbine helicopters, valued at \$141 billion for the airframes, and \$13.3 billion for engines during the ten year period 2008-2017.

The civil unit forecast has increased nearly 50 per cent compared to the previous projection, primarily due to new entry-level turbine helicopters. It now stands at over 9,095 civil helicopters to be delivered during the period, with an overall airframe value of \$31.5 billion and engine value of \$4.2 billion.

“Clearly, the public is seeing a benefit from helicopter usage, with the oil and gas industry, police, air ambulance and private owners all looking for new, purpose-built aircraft,” said Roberts.

The Rolls-Royce forecast also projects 6,616 new military helicopter deliveries during the ten year period, with an airframe value of \$109.7 billion and installed engine value of \$9.1 billion.

Over half of all units delivered will be multi-engine medium rotorcraft, primarily troop transport and maritime patrol. Ten per cent will be intermediate twins, such as light attack and tactical utility helicopters, and nine per cent will be single-engine aircraft such as armed reconnaissance helicopters.

NOTE TO EDITORS

1. Rolls-Royce produces one of the broadest turboshaft engine families available in the world, with a power range stretching from 300shp to more than 6,000shp.
2. The industry-leading fleet of 17,000 Rolls-Royce turboshaft engines, powering light aircraft, helicopters and uninhabited aerial vehicles (UAVs), in both civil and military markets, has accumulated 180 million flying hours.
3. Customers draw on the support of the Rolls-Royce Model 250 FIRST network of 27 service centres and 170 Rolls-Royce technical representatives.
4. Rolls-Royce, the world-leading provider of power systems and services for use on land, at sea and in the air, operates in four global markets; civil aerospace, defence aerospace, marine and energy.
5. It continues to invest in core technologies, products, people and capabilities with the objective of broadening and strengthening the product portfolio, improving efficiency and enhancing the environmental performance of its products. These investments create high barriers to entry.
6. The success of its products is demonstrated by rapid and substantial gains in market share. The company now has a total of 54,000 gas turbines in service worldwide and they generate a demand for high-value services throughout their operational lives.
7. Rolls-Royce has a broad customer base comprising 600 airlines, 4,000 corporate and utility aircraft and helicopter operators, 160 armed forces, more than 2,000 marine customers including 70 navies, and energy customers in 120 countries. Rolls-Royce is a technology leader, employing 38,000 people in offices, manufacturing and service facilities in 50 countries.

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