

## **Leonardo-Finmeccanica: AW169 obtains maximum gross weight increase certification by EASA**

The AgustaWestland AW169 light intermediate twin engine helicopter has obtained certification by EASA for an increased maximum gross weight kit to 4,800 kg (10,582 lb) on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Operators will be able to benefit from up to 200 kg (441 lb) of extra payload compared to the standard 4,600 kg (10,141 lb) maximum gross weight which also translates into a 100 nm range extension. Existing customers will be able to retrofit the 4.8 tonne increased gross weight kit to enhance their aircraft's capabilities.

The 4.8 tonne AW169 responds to the evolving market demand for extended range and endurance in the light intermediate category combined with new generation mission capability, safety standards and state-of-the-art technology. All main applications for which the AW169 has already proven greatly successful will take advantage from this latest enhancement, from public utility to private customers, including those operating in the corporate and offshore markets and will allow even greater competitiveness.

Deliveries of 4.8 tonne AW169s are expected to start shortly to customers worldwide. Agreements for over 150 AW169s, including firm orders, options and framework contracts, have been signed to date by customers worldwide. The type has already been selected for a range of duties including air ambulance, executive/corporate transport, offshore transport and utility roles and is delivered to customers worldwide. The AW169 is part of the family of new generation helicopters that includes the AW139 and AW189 models, which possess the same high performance flight characteristics and safety features as well as sharing a common cockpit layout, design philosophy and maintenance/training concept. This commonality will allow more effective operations for customers operating helicopter fleets across the 4 to 9 tonne categories.