

Rome, 24 November 2008



## **AgustaWestland delivers the first two upgraded Apache helicopters to the UK Ministry of Defence**

AgustaWestland, a Finmeccanica company, today delivered to the UK Ministry of Defence, in a ceremony held at its Yeovil plant in the UK, the first two Apache AH Mk.1 helicopters fitted with the new Modernised Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor (M-TADS/PNVS). This equipment, together with the TADS Electronic Display and Control (TEDAC) system, will considerably increase situational awareness in the battlefield and, consequently, the efficiency of the mission.

The delivery of the first two upgraded helicopters to the UK Ministry of Defence is part of a contract worth GBP 194 million awarded to AgustaWestland in 2005 for the integration of the M-TADS/PNVS system on the UK's entire fleet of 67 Apache AH Mk.1 helicopters currently in service. All the helicopters will be upgraded to the new standard by the end of 2010.

The modernisation programme is progressing in line with planned timescales and costs; the delivery of the first two Apache helicopters, in fact, took place earlier than originally planned, confirming the success of the partnership between AgustaWestland and the UK Ministry of Defence in identifying cutting-edge solutions that can meet client requirements in terms of both cost and operational efficiency.