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AgustaWestland wins Apache Integrated Operational Support contract for the Apache AH Mk.1 helicopters, worth EUR 480 million (GBP 439 million)

AgustaWestland, a Finmeccanica [FNC IM; SIFI.MI] company, is pleased to announce the award of the Apache Integrated Operational Support (IOS) contract worth GBP 439 million (equivalent to around EUR 480 million) for the British Army's 67 Apache AH Mk.1 helicopters. The announcement was made today by the UK's Minister for Defence Equipment and Support, Quentin Davies, during a visit to the main operating base for the Apache AH Mk.1 helicopters, at Wattisham.

The contract - which will run from 2010 to 2014 - will deliver greater aircraft availability to the UK's Armed Forces, whilst reducing the operating costs of the helicopters. The Apache IOS programme will continue for the next 22 years throughout the operational life of the helicopters.

Integrated operational support represents the cornerstone of the strategic partnership between AgustaWestland and the UK Ministry of Defence; the Apache IOS agreement marks another step in the process, further consolidating the relationship between Finmeccanica and the customer.