



**Under the support of Tawazun Economic Program**

**Tawazun, Abu Dhabi Aviation Training Center (ADATC) and Leonardo vow to boost aviation capabilities in the UAE.**

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**\*AW169 helicopter simulator to be delivered by Leonardo, in the framework of an agreement with Tawazun Economic Council, and to be operated by ADATC as a recognized training center.**

**\*Over 200 customers use AW169 helicopters**

*Dubai Airshow 20 November 2019*

Tawazun Economic Council (Tawazun), as part of its support to national economy and to attract foreign and domestic investments into the UAE, the multinational aerospace, defence and security player Leonardo and the Abu Dhabi Aviation Training Centre (ADATC), the only helicopter simulation training center in the Middle East, have signed a cooperation partnership agreement. A partnership to establish new and expanding training capabilities in the Middle East.

The deal incorporates an agreement with Leonardo to provide ADATC, for the first time in the region, with AW169 helicopter simulator and a software upgrade of the currently used AW139 simulator. This shall boost the service and convenience capabilities provided by Leonardo to its expanding client base, in line with the UAE's industrial plan.

Matar Al Romaiti, Chief Economic Development Officer, Tawazun Economic Council, said: "We expect strong growth in the industry from these agreements which will in turn benefit our economy, our military and our industry significantly. We take pride in the fact that this facility will play a pivotal role in laying the groundwork for future flight testing programs in the region, to improve the defense sector, military and air forces."

The agreement was signed by Matar Ali Al Rumaithi, Chief Economic Development Officer at Tawazun, HE Nader Ahmed Al Hamadi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Aviation, Mr. Gianfranco Sottotetti, representing Leonardo and Mr. Ahmed Ismail Al Khoury, Executive Director of ADATC.

Commenting on the new capabilities, Nader Ahmed Al Hammadi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Aviation said: "Abu Dhabi Aviation is committed to providing the best leading training programs in the region. We are now proud to be a leading training center and facility in the region with the latest technology. With the new capabilities provided to ADATC, including the introduction of new simulators, we anticipate a direct impact on the UAE economy through the expected 20 regional pilot exercises, which will strengthen our position as major contributors to industry in the UAE by further empowering local capabilities and training the military sector and defense in the region. "

"With the new simulators, Abu Dhabi Aviation will be the first in the region to provide the most advanced innovative technology with virtual and augmented reality for training and education purposes. Incorporating our technologies in Abu Dhabi will boost the UAE's position in terms of capability growth in the region. To support and develop defense and security industries in the UAE, the program seeks to create new opportunities in various strategic sectors" said Mr. Ahmed Al Khoury, Executive Director of ADATC.

"With these advanced simulators our longstanding partner Abu Dhabi Aviation will be able to deliver outstanding training services with state-of-the-art virtual reality technology. It will be the first regional player with simulation training for both the AW139 and AW169, best sellers in their respective helicopter categories for a range of missions. We're happy to further contribute to UAE's capability growth in aviation" said Mr. Gianfranco from Leonardo.

The Tawazun Economic Program, which recently launched its new policy in February this year, aims to support economic diversification in the UAE and in line with this vision, Abu Dhabi Aviation has pursued a strategy of income diversification, mainly with the establishment of ADATC, which promotes long-term partnerships.

### **About Tawazun**

The Tawazun Economic Program, whose new policy was launched earlier in February this year, aims to support economic diversification in the UAE. The program was designed to promote long-term partnerships to support and develop defense and security industries in the UAE. It also seeks to create new opportunities in various strategic sectors.

## **About Abu Dhabi Aviation (ADA)**

Abu Dhabi Aviation is a national joint stock company and the largest helicopter operator in the Middle East and North Africa. Founded in 1976, it has 55 aircraft fleets, including 51 helicopters and 4 fixed-wing aircraft.

Abu Dhabi also operates aircraft to various destinations.

Awarded a world-class award in safe aviation, it has secured 1,000,000 (million) flight hours safely.

## **Abu Dhabi Aviation (ADA) activity**

### **Services to oil companies**

Abu Dhabi Aviation provides shipping support services to offshore oil fields and other services worldwide, particularly to oil and gas producers in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and beyond, in addition to the services of air ambulance and search and rescue.

### **Establishment of ADATC**

Abu Dhabi Aviation has established its own simulation unit that will cover the training needs of all its customers in the UAE and the MENA region. Customers in the Middle East will be able to use this training facility instead of going to European facilities. For expansion, Abu Dhabi Aviation has built a separate state-of-the-art building to facilitate the operation of the simulation unit and will evolve into an international helicopter training center. This will help build a different platform and certify pilots to fly various types of aircrafts, and help manufacturing companies meet the needs of their different customers.

One of the most important services provided by Abu Dhabi Aviation is the Air Ambulance and Medical Evacuation Service for multiple destinations and has developed its services by adopting a modern aircraft fleet in line with business needs and safety strategy.

## **Maintenance Operations**

Among the most significant services provided by Abu Dhabi Aviation are the air ambulance and medical evacuation services provided to various entities. The Company has developed its services using a fleet of modern aircrafts to satisfy work requirements and its adopted safety strategy.

## **Additional Services**

- \* Multiple logistic support services to the police and the army.
- \* The company also provides VVIP passenger transportation services, crop spraying, aerial construction, seismic support, fire fighting in the UAE and Europe.

## **About Leonardo**

Leonardo, a global high-technology company, is among the top ten world players in Aerospace, Defence and Security and Italy's main industrial company. Organized into five business divisions, Leonardo has a significant industrial presence in Italy, the United Kingdom, Poland and the USA, where it also operates through subsidiaries such as Leonardo DRS (defense electronics), and joint ventures and partnerships: ATR, MBDA, Telespazio, Thales Alenia Space and Avio. Leonardo competes in the most important international markets by leveraging its areas of technological and product leadership (Helicopters, Aircraft, Aerostructures, Electronics, Cyber Security and Space). Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), in 2018 Leonardo recorded consolidated revenues of €12.2 billion and invested €1.4 billion in Research and Development. The Group has been part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) since 2010 and became Industry leader of Aerospace & Defence sector of DJSI in 2019.