

Superior Helicopter Increases K-MAX Helicopter Fleet to Six; Takes Delivery of ‘Smokey’ and ‘Hulk’

Bloomfield, Conn., June 3, 2004 -- The operator of the largest K-MAX[®] helicopter fleet is expanding yet again, further enhancing its capabilities for firefighting and construction work.

The good news comes from Kaman Aerospace Corp., where company officials today announced the delivery of two K-MAX[®] helicopters to Superior Helicopter LLC, of Grants Pass, Oregon. The aircraft have been nicknamed Smokey and Hulk by the Superior Helicopter team. The names reflect their solid metallic gray and metallic green colors as well as their firefighting and heavy lift missions for which K-MAX is so ideally suited.

Gary Jantzer, vice president of Superior Helicopter, said “we are looking forward to employing the new helicopters, now part of a fleet of six, in support of firefighting and construction work around the world. The K-MAX has proven itself to be a versatile platform and an efficient performer,” Jantzer said. “We have found that it is extremely effective for the firefighting mission, and the helicopter has truly distinguished itself in that regard.”



"Superior Helicopter is doing important work in helping to battle wildfires around the world with its K-MAX fleet," said Roger Wassmuth, director K-MAX marketing and business development for Kaman Aerospace. "They are saving lives, property and valuable forests, and Kaman is proud to play a part in that effort. The K-MAX is coming into its own as the helicopter of choice for the firefighting mission, and operators are seeing that no other helicopter can match its unique performance capabilities."

K-MAX is specifically designed for vertical reference flight, an important feature for external load work. It has a 5,000-pound (2268 kg) on-the-hook lift capacity at 8,000 feet of altitude (2446 meters) and 6,000 pounds (2722 kg) on-the-hook at lower altitudes. A K-MAX equipped with a Sling Tank can carry 700 gallons (2655 liters) of water per drop.

Kaman Aerospace Corp. is a subsidiary of Kaman Corp. (NASDAQ:KAMNA) of Bloomfield, Conn. In addition to K-MAX, the company also manufactures the SH-2G Super Seasprite maritime helicopter, and is a subcontractor for aircraft structures and components, including applications on most current Boeing commercial airliners and the C-17 transport. The company also manufactures safe, arm and fuzing devices for missiles and bombs, rugged environment mass memory systems, precision measuring devices and electro-optic systems.

Kaman Corporation conducts business in the aerospace, industrial distribution and music markets.

###

Contact:
Roger Wassmuth

(860) 243-7006
wassmuthr-kac@kaman.com