

## **KAMAN CONTINUES TO MARKET K-MAX HELICOPTER; AIRCRAFT'S HIGH RELIABILITY A KEY FACTOR WITH OPERATORS**

*BLOOMFIELD, Conn. (September 1, 2004)* - - Kaman Aerospace Corp. said today that the company is continuing to market its medium- to heavy-lift K-MAX helicopter, following delivery of all of its available helicopter inventory this summer. As previously reported, the company said it intends to support the fleet and will evaluate reopening the K-MAX production line when sufficient orders for the aircraft are received.

Roger Wassmuth, director, K-MAX marketing and business development, said, "The company has sold or leased seven of the aircraft so far this year. We are selling and leasing K-MAXs to a mix of new and repeat customers. The aircraft has established itself in the heavy-lift arena as a highly reliable performer. There currently are 27 K-MAX helicopters operating in the field, each flying up to 2,000 hours per year. K-MAX operators and their customers give the aircraft high marks. They particularly value the helicopter's ability to carry heavy loads at high altitudes, and its 98-99 percent reliability, which means it is virtually always available for work. Another important factor for operators is the level of product support Kaman provides, including field technical support anywhere in the world, quality overhaul and repair services, and assured spare parts availability."

Wassmuth said the company's innovative K-MAX lease program has allowed potential customers to gain experience with the aircraft before making a purchase. "Once operators have flown the aircraft in the field they begin to see its true value and potential." During the third quarter of 2004, two aircraft previously leased under the program have been sold to their operators, McKenzie Heli-Services Ltd. and Superior Helicopter LLC.

Although the K-MAX has distinguished itself in a variety of roles, it has earned high praise in the field as a U. S. Forest Service Type I aerial firefighter. K-MAXs are also in wide use in logging and construction projects in North and South America, Europe and Asia.

Five K-MAXs operating in Colombia, South America, are demonstrating the aircraft's suitability for military type applications, as well. These aircraft are being used on a daily basis to move ammunition, water, fuel and other supplies in support of U. S. Government-sponsored counter-drug operations being conducted by the Colombian military.

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 altitude (2446 meters) and 6,000 pounds (2722 kg) on-the-hook lift capacity at lower altitudes.

Kaman Aerospace Corp. is a subsidiary of Kaman Corp. (*NASDAQ:KAMNA*) of Bloomfield, Conn. In addition to the K-MAX, the company also offers the SH-2G Super Seasprite naval helicopter, and is a major subcontractor for aircraft structures and components for commercial and military aircraft, 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 non-contact measuring devices, and electro-optics systems.

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

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