

Toledo, Ohio Picks R44 for Fire & Police Departments

The city of Toledo, Ohio has purchased a new R44 Police Helicopter, dubbed "Air One," for use by the police and fire departments. The aircraft will be used for surveillance, search and rescue, night patrol, to monitor chases, and other emergency situations.

The police department aviation unit commander, Lt. Leo Eggert and Officer Jeff Violanti flew the aircraft from the Robinson factory in Torrance, California. The helicopter cost approximately \$504,000 and is equipped with a full range of law enforcement options including a searchlight and infrared camera. The city



Above, Toledo's 'Air One' R44 Police Helicopter parked on the banks of Ohio's Maumee River.

Left, Lt. Leo Eggert departs the Robinson factory.



paid for "Air One" with funds from a federal grant and department reserves.

Members of the aviation unit, which includes Lt. Eggert, Officer Violanti, Gary Bunting and Bruce Helppie, completed approximately three months of flight training earlier in the year at Quantum Helicopters, a

Robinson-authorized dealer and service center based in Chandler Arizona. They trained primarily in Robinson's smaller 2-seat R22 helicopter, and three of the four officers earned their private rotorcraft ratings. Lt. Eggert - who was already a licensed fixed-wing instructor - added rotorcraft to his flight instructor rating that will allow him to pilot the aircraft and teach students, including his officers.

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AIA Figures Confirm R22 & R44 Top Selling Helicopters

The latest *Aerospace Industries Association* sales figures once again place Robinson Helicopter Company in the number one position for North American civil helicopter sales, with deliveries totalling 197 units during the first half of 2001 - up 8% compared to the same period last year.

Robinson delivered 79 R22s and 118 R44s during the first six months of the year, making the R44 "Number 1" in sales, and the R22, "Number 2." The total combined deliveries of 197 new aircraft is over three times the number delivered by any of

the other eight manufacturers in North America. The nearest competitor in terms of units delivered was Bell with 54 shipments.

Piston helicopters continue to dominate the new helicopter market, primarily due to the popularity of the R22 and R44 helicopters. Of the 303 new civil helicopters delivered in the first half of 2001, 72% were powered by piston engines.

The sales figures can be accessed directly at the *Aerospace Industries* website at www.aia-aerospace.org/stats/aero_stats/helo2q01.pdf.



Robinson Named One of LA's Fastest Growing Private Companies for 2nd Consecutive Year

For the second year in a row, the *Los Angeles Business Journal* has identified Robinson Helicopter Company on its list of the **Top 100 Fastest Growing Private Companies**.

Firms were ranked by their percentage growth in revenues and employment from 1998 to 2001.

To qualify, a company must be privately owned, for-profit, headquartered in Los Angeles County, have at least \$5 million in revenues, and not be a division or subsidiary of another company.

Pathfinder Indemnity Maintains Low Insurance Rates for R22s and R44s

Typical Annual Rates on New Robinson Helicopters

R22 - Private owner with 150 R22 hours and RHC Safety Course:

Hull Insurance	\$4,470
Liability Insurance	<u>\$1,360</u> \$5,830

R44 - 300 hour pilot, with good safety record and RHC Safety Course:

Hull Insurance	\$7,330
Liability Insurance	<u>\$2,560</u> \$9,890

Despite current trends in aircraft insurance, *Pathfinder Indemnity Company* has recently announced that it will hold rates for hull and liability coverage on new and used R22 and R44 helicopters.

Pathfinder said the continuing decrease in the R22 and R44 accident rates makes this possible.

For additional information or to obtain an insurance quote on your aircraft, contact:

Pathfinder Indemnity Company Ltd.

Fax: 242.352.3932

Email: pathfinder@batelnet.bs

Aerotech Buys Eleventh R44 Clipper

Aerotech International, which operates a fleet of ten fishing boats has just taken

delivery of its eleventh R44 Clipper helicopter.



Each of the company's ten vessels is equipped with a helipad and R44 Clipper helicopter for fish spotting.

Aerotech spokesman, Richard Greene says the R44s have been so effective that the company doesn't want any of their boats to be without one. "So we decided to buy an extra to have available whenever one of

the choppers is getting its 2000-hour overhaul."

Aerotech's latest Clipper is R44 Serial Number 1121C and is equipped with fixed utility floats, tinted windshield and door windows, tie down rings on the belly, tie down lugs on landing gear, frame and nose, wind deflectors, artificial horizon, vertical compass, turn coordinator, two meter radio, FM radio, marine radio with GPS plotter, single pilot multiple audio control, transponder, and main rotor blade supports.

Aerotech is a factory-authorized service center and maintains its own fleet of Robinson helicopters.

Robinson Dealer Shizuka Saito Receives 2001 Air Sports Medal from France's FAI

France's *Federation Aeronautique Internationale* (FAI), the official organization for world aviation records and accomplishments, awarded the 2001 Air Sports Medal to Shizuka Saito to recognize her work organizing Japanese helicopter teams and her outstanding participation in helicopter sports and competition. This medal was established by the FAI Council in 1991, the hundredth anniversary of Otto Lilienthal's first flights, and is given to individuals or groups for outstanding services in connection with air sport activities.

Saito was one of only three individuals so recognized this year, and the *Japan Aeronautique Association* held an awards ceremony for Saito and others for their exemplary industry service.

Since 1999, Japanese helicopter teams

have been extremely successful flying R22 helicopters in the world helicopter championships and have greatly contributed to the popularity of helicopter sports in Japan. Last year, Saito and fellow team-member, Takashi Tanizawa won gold medals flying their R22 helicopters in the World Helicopter Championships in Sevilla, Spain. Saito's gold medal was in the Precision Flying and Landing Event. The Japanese teams also earned silver and bronze medals, finished fourth overall of the sixteen teams that participated.

Saito is the founder and president of *Alpha Aviation Company* based in Tokyo, a factory-authorized dealer and service center for Robinson R22 and R44 helicopters. The company was established in 1985 and offers pilot training, charter, aerial



photography, VIP transportation, and maintenance. For additional information, go to www.alpha-aviation.net.



ASC's Jeff Girdle (left) with St. Maarten Police lead pilot, Darius Knight.

St. Maarten Police on Patrol in New R44

The *St. Maarten Police Department* in the Netherland Antilles purchased a new R44 Police helicopter earlier this year and have already completed over 600 flight hours.

The aircraft is flown seven days a week and is used primarily for patrol, search and rescue, crime response, and narcotic interdiction. To get the unit up and flying as quickly as possible, California-based *Air Support Consultants* (ASC) assisted with flight training and tactical instruction. ASC pres-

ident, Bob Muse, reports, "We were able to take them from no operation to fully operational within two weeks. Our primary concern was that they establish a safe and effective operation."

Successful missions so far have included locating a capsized boat and assisting with passenger rescue, interception of a boat carrying 250 kilos of narcotics, and first on the scene and coordination of the arrest of 27 persons involved in prostitution, illegal gambling and pornographic business activities on the internet.

Lightweight Oil Filter For New R22 and R44 Helicopters

Robinson has developed a new oil filter for the R22 and R44 helicopters which is less costly and much lighter than previous filters. The new filter will be available as an option on new aircraft, and a retrofit kit is planned for older R22 helicopters.

The filter installation directly replaces the standard oil screen adapter and only adds 2.3 pounds, including the spin-on filter filled with oil. This is a 3.6-pound reduction in the installation weight compared to the previous design.

The installation uses a readily available Champion filter plus the current tempera-

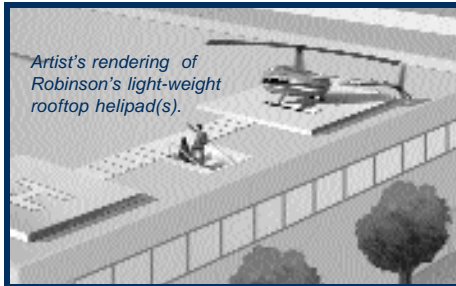
ture probe, thermostatic bypass valve, gasket, and mounting hardware. No hoses are required.

The list price for the filter installation is \$1,000 when ordered with a new R22 or R44 helicopter, and \$1,400 when ordered as a retrofit kit for older R22s. Unfortunately, a retrofit kit for the R44 is not available due to required struc-



tural changes. Installation of the oil filter increases the time between oil changes from 25 to 50 hours.

1st Robinson Helipad Set for Approval



The first Robinson rooftop helipad has received FAA approval and is on track for final approval in early 2002. When Robinson announced plans to promote small rooftop helipads, a search began for California industrial park owners to partner the factory in the design, installation, and approval of one or more 'prototype' pads. In exchange, Robinson would pay the cost of the helipad for the first few that also buy a new R44 helicopter. In June 2001, Ron Vinci threw his hat into the ring and committed to the purchase of a new R44 and the installation of the first light-weight rooftop helipad.

Vinci owns *Honda of Santa Ana*, an automobile dealership in Southern California. The pad will be installed on the roof of the dealership's service center, which is a concrete tilt-up structure and requires no structural reinforcement to meet current California Building Codes and to accommodate the weight of the helicopter or the pad itself. The only modifications needed are a stairwell to the roof and a hatch at the top of the stairs.

Robinson heliport coordinator, Jen

McSkimming, prepared paperwork for FAA, city, and state approvals and will testify in upcoming hearings and meetings. Daniel Roth, P.E. and engineer at Robinson, designed the helipad and support structure, and also provided calculations and other data to city planners.

The process is long, but not impossible. In June, after Vinci agreed to buy an R44, McSkimming prepared FAA forms and received approval by the end of July. Next came local city officials; Robinson assisted by providing data to the Santa Ana planning and airport land use commis-

sions. A public hearing will be held in November, with a city council vote the following month. Following city council approval, the State of California will be the final hurdle. McSkimming expects the State's stamp of approval by January 2002, allowing Vinci to begin construction of the helipad in early 2002.

Robinson's offer to provide free helipads is still open to purchasers of new R44s in Southern California for a limited time.

For more details, contact Jen McSkimming at (310) 539-0508, ext. 235 or email jenemc@aol.com.

New R22 and R44 Accessories

A new color-coordinated line of accessories is now available for R22 and R44 owners and pilots.

The new R44 collection is offered primarily in black with gold accents, except the polo shirt and crew-neck sweater, which are also available in beige. The new R22 collection is offered primarily in navy blue with silver accents, except the tee-shirt and polo shirt, which may be ordered in the standard navy, or in gray with navy accents.

Several new items have been added including front-zip fleece jacket, a

notepad, backpack, and key-holder with leather logo tag. A consistent logo design is used on all items to provide an attractive ensemble of quality merchandise. For more information and prices, contact Robinson Customer Service.



New R22 accessories, like the fleece jacket and coffee mug (below) are available in navy with silver accents.

R44 accessories (left) feature a black/gold color theme.



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