Government FastFin Sales Soar at BLR Aerospace

ANAHEIM, Calif., Feb 24, 2014 — Government and military sales of FastFin® Tail Rotor Enhancement and Stability Systems are taking off, up 30 percent over two years, officials at BLR Aerospace say. Some 200 of the 600 FastFin Systems in operation worldwide are flown for government or military missions.

Recent sales to the UK Ministry of Defense (four Bell 412 systems with follow on options) and the Philippine Air Force (eight UH-1H systems with options for 13 more) illustrate how FastFin can benefit operators with diverse mission profiles and operational challenges.

The UK Ministry of Defense, for example, operates Bell 412s in Cyprus, carrying heavy loads at high-density altitudes. The Philippine Air Force operates at Sea Level, and is faced with challenging winds. Other government operators include the U.S. Department of State, Colombia, and Peru, among others.

"FastFin is the most cost-effective solution for improving useful load, cross wind tolerance, and operational safety available on the market today," said Dave Marone, BLR’s Vice President of Sales & Marketing. "For many companies performance improvement positively impacts ROI, BLR’s patented FastFin System includes certified hover performance increases up to 91%.

The FastFin system includes two parallel stall strips, known as Dual Tailboom Strakes, on the tailboom and a reshaped vertical fin. FastFin optimizes airflow around the tailboom, dramatically improving tail rotor authority and wind azimuth tolerance. FastFin also improves aircraft stability, positively impacting operating costs and cycle fatigue in structures and demands on tail rotor rotating components. In addition, with FastFin installed, most operators will receive between a 10 and 90 percent increase in useful load depending on specific model and density altitude.

Throughout Heli-Expo 2014, operators of Bell Medium helicopters may visit BLR Aerospace (Exhibit 5743) for a return on investment (ROI) analysis that will estimate their individual payback period for the investment made in the FastFin System.

About BLR Aerospace

BLR Aerospace is fully devoted to performance innovation. With products now on more than 5,000 helicopters and airplanes worldwide, and endorsed by industry-leading OEMs such as Bell Helicopter and Beechcraft Corporation, we back our superior designs with unsurpassed manufacturing quality. Note: BLR is no longer known as Boundary Layer Research and appreciates the news media's support in accurately using the BLR Aerospace name.

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