BELL 505: A SMALL BUT MIGHTY ICON GRACING THE SKIES OF THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

News / Business aviation, Manufacturer

As the sun rises over the expansive Outback and the rugged hills of Middle Earth, one may spot the Bell 505 taking to the skies, its rotor blades slicing through the dawn with precision and grace, accompanied by the soft and distinctive whirring that is synonymous of rotorcraft. A symbol of modern innovation in aviation, despite its compact size, the Bell 505 has proven to be a versatile and indispensable tool for a wide range of missions, flying from coast to coast across Australia and the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

Designed for the demands down under

Australia's vast and often unforgiving landscape can present unique challenges for any pilot and aircraft, which is why there is a need for a reliable and agile helicopter that can navigate the remote deserts in the Northern Territory and the lush rainforests of Queensland.

The Bell 505 boasts a fully-integrated Garmin G1000H system with two LCD screens that feature critical flight data, a moving map display, Traffic Information System (TIS), among other things – reducing the pilot's workload while increasing their situational awareness.

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Apart from its top-of-the-line avionics system, the Bell 505 also has more rear cabin room than any other aircraft in its class. With removable seats, wraparound windows and a fully flat floor, the helicopter is meant to adapt to the user and their needs, not the other way around.

Conquering New Zealand rugged terrain

The diverse geography found in New Zealand – towering mountain ranges, dramatic coastlines, deep valleys – requires a fuel-efficient helicopter that is capable of handling rapidly changing weather conditions and difficult flying environments.

The Bell 505 is the only platform in its class with a dual-channel FADEC Arrius 2R engine in place, allowing it to generate more power at altitude, better its hot and high performance and efficiently use fuel. In addition, a two-bladed rotor system with higher inertia provides excellent auto-rotational capability, giving the rotorcraft a powerful lift without any excess drag.

30 SEPTEMBER 2024

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