

News Release

07 October 2010

Cobham fifth generation refuelling pod certified as part of first A330 MRTT

GETAFE, SPAIN – Cobham's latest "fifth generation" 905E Air-to-Air Refuelling (AAR) pod has been certified as part of the Airbus A330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT), which yesterday achieved military certification ahead of the planned first deliveries to the Royal Australian Air force before year end.

"Military certification is a major milestone in the development of the A330 MRTT's tanker capability," said Iain Gibson, Vice President of Cobham Mission Equipment.

"This certification reinforces Cobham's position as the world leader in hose and drogue refuelling systems, and reaffirms our commitment to new technology through development of this fifth-generation pod."

Each Australian MRTT carries two 905E pods, one on each under wing station, individually capable of delivering fuel at 420 US gallons per minute. The pods feature the latest version of Cobham's electric hose reel drive system and state of the art digital control and monitoring system.

They are also fitted with Cobham's new high-speed variable drag drogue, which is key to meeting the extended aerial refuelling speed range of 180 knots to 325 knots (330km/h to 600km/h). This enables a single tanker to support a variety of aircraft from the Boeing V-22 Osprey to the latest generation fast jets such as the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter.

The A330 MRTT with Cobham 905E pods has also been selected for the UK MoD Future Strategic Tanker Aircraft (FSTA) programme, the Saudi Arabia Air Force and the United Arab Emirates Air Force, with a current requirement for more than 50 pods.

About Cobham

Cobham's products and services have been at the heart of sophisticated military and civil systems for more than 75 years, keeping people safe, improving communications, and enhancing the capability of land, sea, air and space platforms. The Company has four divisions employing more than 11,000 people on five continents, with customers and partners in over 100 countries and annual revenue of some £1.9bn / \$3 billion.

About Cobham Mission Equipment

Cobham Mission Equipment is the world market leader for Air-to-Air Refuelling, providing 'nose to tail' solutions from the cockpit of the donor aircraft to the tail of the receiver platform. To date, more than 1,000 systems have been delivered for buddy-buddy refuelling and for tactical and strategic tanking for fixed and rotary wing aircraft, with expertise now extended into the development of autonomous UAV to UAV refuelling.

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