

CARL ZEISS MEDIA RELEASE

“BOTSWANA SELECTS LEO-II-A5-EP OBSERVATION SYSTEM

The Botswana Police Service last week purchased three Eurocopter AS350 B3 helicopters, equipped with the Carl Zeiss Optronics LEO-II-A5 Extended Performance (EP) airborne observation system, for its newly established Police Air Wing.



The contract with Eurocopter Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd also provides for the mission equipment, including the LEO-II-A5-EP. This system enhances and expands the aircraft's ability to perform long-range search and rescue operations, surveillance, reconnaissance, and other observation missions under all environmental conditions.

"We are very pleased with Eurocopter's and the Botswana Police Service's selection," says Mr Kobus Viljoen, Managing Director, Carl Zeiss Optronics (Pty) Ltd. "We continuously seek such opportunities to supply and support our unique, leading-edge technologies inherent in this system."

The LEO-II-A5-EP is the system of choice for Police Air Support Units worldwide. With its multi-sensor payload equipped with the latest technology sensors, it continues a proud tradition of the LEO family by supporting law enforcement operations, enhancing public safety and improving mission effectiveness.

Neighbouring country Namibia is also in the process of launching its new Police Air Wing with the LEO-II-A5-EP having been selected to equip that country's own Eurocopter AS350 B3 helicopter.

More on the LEO-II-A5-EP:

The selected configuration includes the latest generation 640 x 480 high resolution 8-9 μm Focal Plane Array (FPA) QWIP thermal imager with three fields of view (FOV), a 3-CCD daylight TV camera with a powerful zoom lens spatially matched to the thermal imager FOV. Its wide spectrum Spotter TV camera with dual colour and B&W capability provides close-in image magnification (0.35° H). The system is equipped with a video autotracker, searchlight slaving kits, and an eye-safe laser pointer, which allows for covert marking of points of interest.

This sensor combination provides the operator with best picture performance under all operational conditions, including high altitude and long slant distance, thus enhancing safety and covert surveillance.

About Carl Zeiss Optronics (Pty) Ltd and the Carl Zeiss Group



Founded as a workshop for precision mechanics and optics in the German city of Jena in 1846, the Carl Zeiss Group is today a global leader in the optical and opto-electronic industries.

There are currently 11 249 employees in the Group, of whom 3 300 are employed outside Germany. With offices in over 30 countries, Carl Zeiss is represented in more than 100 countries, with production centres in Europe, North America, Central America, Asia, and now Africa. The company's headquarters are in Oberkochen, Germany, in north-eastern Baden-Wuerttemberg.

The owner of the Carl Zeiss AG is the Carl Zeiss Foundation (Carl-Zeiss-Stiftung). The main aim of the Foundation is to secure the future of Carl Zeiss AG and SCHOTT AG (a precision glass producer). The Foundation also supports research and science in the fields in which the companies and their subsidiaries are active.

The Carl Zeiss Group defines as its most important task the enabling of science and technology to go beyond what human beings can see. "We make it visible" - is the corporate slogan, and the promise to customers to open doors that were previously sealed.

The Carl Zeiss Group is market leader in the majority of its fields. It offers an extraordinary spectrum of leading-edge solutions and products for semiconductor and opto-electronic technology; life sciences and health care; eye care; and industrial solutions. Sales in the financial year 2005/6 amounted to EUR2.43-billion (approximately R 23.65-billion).

Carl Zeiss Optronics is one of the leading providers of optical and opto-electronic products and services for defence and security.

As a business entity of the Carl Zeiss Group, Carl Zeiss Optronics sees its slogan, "We make it visible" as an obligation to its customers around the world. To us, it is a promise to incorporate more than 100 years of experience in defence optics into technologically high-quality solutions and products for internal and external security.

We develop, manufacture and distribute a wide range of optical and optronic products and systems which fulfil the requirements of the Army, Navy and Air Force. They also meet the high demands of border patrol and domestic security. The ability to fulfil customer wishes flexibly and efficiently makes us a sought-after partner for international defence forces and border patrol units.

For further information please contact:

Gilbert do Nascimento

Carl Zeiss Optronics (Pty) Ltd, Executive Manager: Marketing and Sales

Tel.: (+27 12) 671-1099

Mobile : (+27 82) 886 9874

Email : g.donascimento@optronics.zeiss.com