Microturbo (Safran) and Bristow Group sign the first Support By the Hour (SBH®) Agreement for the AW189 e-APU60

Toulouse – February 24th, 2014. Microturbo (subsidiary of Safran) and Bristow Group are pleased to announce the signature of the first Support By the Hour (SBH®) agreement for the Microturbo e-APU60 on the AW189 helicopter. Supporting 11 search and rescue aircraft and 6 operating in the Oil & Gas sector, this contract is the first of its kind in support of e-APU. The five-year SBH® agreement will enable Bristow to pay per flight hour used and in return, receive comprehensive product support for the e-APU60. Anticipated benefits include greater safety, availability and flexibility. “Our main objective is to offer best-in-class support and services solutions to our customers and to meet Bristow’s expectations in terms of dispatch reliability, customer product support and services. We worked together closely with the Turbomeca UK Support team to offer the best solution to our customer Bristow and ensure its satisfaction. This integrated support activity will be provided by Safran’s helicopter engine specialist: Turbomeca,” declared Thierry Gourmanel, Commercial and Customer Support Vice President, Microturbo. “Bristow has a long history with Turbomeca and has SBH® agreements in place for several variants of both Arriel and Makila families of engines,” says Bristow Vice President and CTO John Cloggie. “SBH® has proved successful in keeping support costs aligned to flight activity and revenue. This agreement will be the first time SBH® will cover an APU and I look forward to seeing similar benefits.” Specially designed to meet the demands of new-generation more-electric aircraft, this new power source concept completed with success its certification tests on May 31st, receiving the highest level of EASA civil certification (Category 1 for essential use). Since then, first system deliveries already started. With its streamlined architecture and proven technologies developed within Safran, the e-APU is characterized by an excellent power-to-weight ratio, exceptional compactness, as well as optimized reliability and cost of ownership. It also meets and anticipates current environmental standards, featuring impressively low fuel consumption, pollution and noise emission levels.

Microturbo (Safran) specializes in the design and production of high-technology power systems and propulsion systems. State-of-the-art and reliable power solutions offered include the large proven range in Microturbo gas turbines, but also innovations resulting of an important R&D investment and strategic partnerships. Microturbo is a world leader in the field of power systems and propulsion systems and has delivered over 13,000 units. Turbomeca (Safran) is the leading helicopter engine manufacturer, and has produced 70,000 turbines based on its own designs since the company was founded. Offering the widest range of engines in the world and dedicated to 2,500 customers in 155 countries, Turbomeca provides a proximity service thanks to its 16 sites, 30 Certified Maintenance Centers, 18 Repair & Overhaul Centers, and 90 Field representatives and Field technicians.

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