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CH-53K heavy lift helicopter, the "King Stallion", photo courtesy Sikorsky Aircraft.

CH-53K Rollout Marks New Era for Aurora

Manassas, VA, May 8, 2014 - United Technologies' Sikorsky Aircraft and the U.S. Marine Corps rolled out the CH-53K "King Stallion", the preeminent heavy lift helicopter during its unveiling ceremony at Sikorsky's Florida flight test center. The "King Stallion" provides revolutionary lift and range capability to Marine Corps amphibious forces via several technical advances in propulsion and light weight high strength composite structure.

Aurora Flight Sciences is a proud member of the Sikorsky/Marine Corps heavy lift aerostructures team. Derived from a design concept began in 2007, Aurora delivers composite nacelles for the three GE engines and provides the main rotor pylon to the aircraft. A collaborative virtual design environment was employed to connect Aurora and Sikorsky engineers during the design phase reducing cost and time to complete development. Aurora continues to make deliveries in support of Sikorsky's flight test and operation evaluation program and expects to make rate deliveries of over 20 ship sets a year by 2018.

"The 53K is planned to be an integral part of our nation's airlift capability for current and subsequent generations of Marines, soldiers, sailors and airmen. With over 200 aircraft deliveries over the next decade it is also a foundational program for Aurora's growth plans," said Mark Cherry President and COO of Aurora Flight Sciences.

Aurora manufactures the 53K assemblies in its West Virginia facility and provides design and engineering support from its headquarters in Manassas VA.

About Aurora Flight Sciences
Aurora Flight Sciences designs and manufactures large composite structures for defense and commercial aerospace applications. Aurora is headquartered in Manassas, VA and operates production plants in Bridgeport, WV and Columbus, MS and a Research and Development Center in Cambridge, MA. To view recent press releases and more about Aurora please visit our web site at www.aurora.aero.

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