

# 24th ICAS CONGRESS Yokohama - Japan

August 29 - September 3 , 2004



## " PERSPECTIVES of FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS of VERTICAL FLIGHT " The Point of View of Industry

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# SUMMARY

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1. **The roles of Vertical Flight**
2. **Limitation of the helicopter**
3. **The two solutions**
  - **The advanced helicopter**
  - **The Tiltrotor**
4. **The Industry Goals**
5. **The Advanced Technologies**
6. **From technologies to product**
7. **AGUSTA: the Future has began**
  - **The AB139**
  - **The BA609**

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# SUMMARY

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## 1. The roles of Vertical Flight

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# THE ROLES OF VERTICAL FLIGHT

## UNIQUE ABILITIES OF THE HELICOPTERS

- Hovering
- Take-Off and Landing in a restricted area, not prepared terrains and with obstacles



Evolution

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# THE ROLES OF VERTICAL FLIGHT

## Increasing demand :

- Transport of people and materials
- Point to point connection (VIP, corporate...)
- Offshore
- Short range transport
- Search & Rescue
- Military air mobility (Peace keeping)
- Security



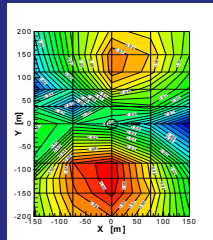
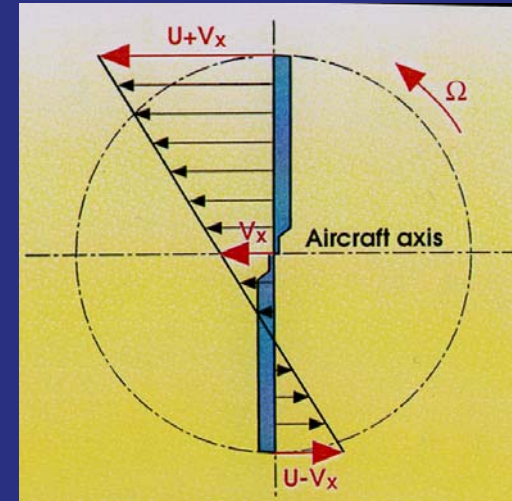
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## 2. Limitations of the helicopter

# LIMITATIONS OF THE HELICOPTER

- Low productivity
  - ⇒ Low speed
  - ⇒ high operating costs
- Environmental impact



- ⇒ Noise
- ⇒ Pollution

- Public acceptance
- No rules in the ATM



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## 3. The two solutions

- **The advanced helicopter**
- **The Tiltrotor**



# THE TWO SOLUTIONS

## PERSPECTIVE OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF VERTICAL FLIGHT



### Helicopter Evolution

- All Weather
- More performing
- Quieter
- Safer
- More comfortable
- Low pollution

Hovering



### TILTROTOR

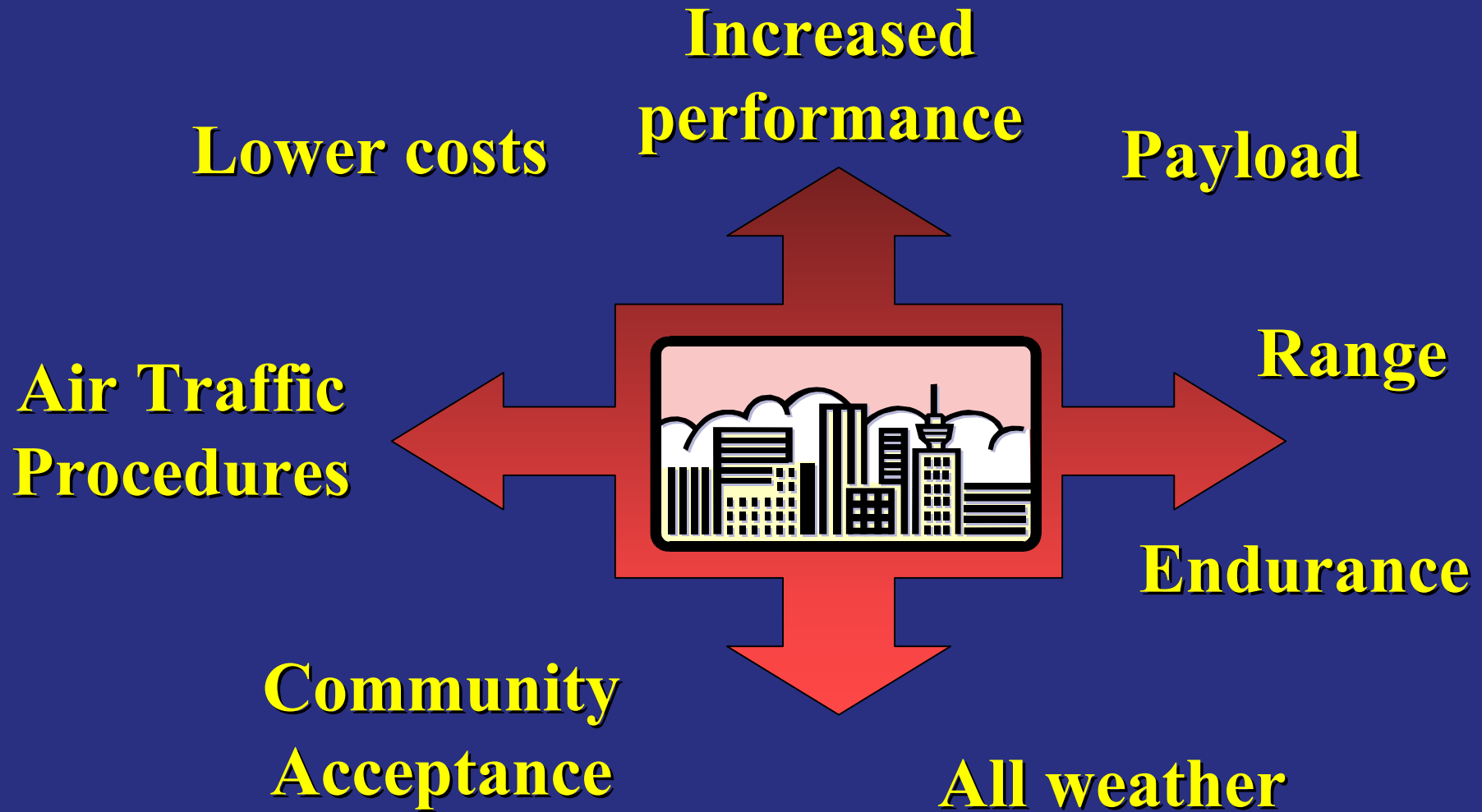
- Breakthrough Technologies
- High productivity
- High speed
- High versatility

Speed  
Range  
Cruise

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# INDUSTRY GOALS



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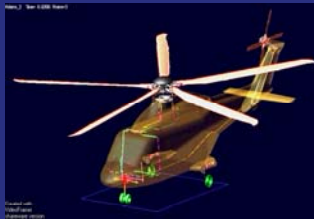
## 5. The Advanced Technologies



# ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

The technology solutions play an important role to achieve the industry goal...

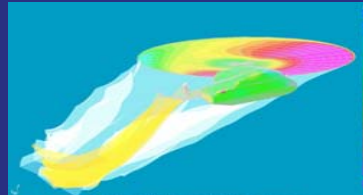
## DYNAMICS



## SIMULATIONS



## AERODYNAMICS



## STRUCTURES



## AVIONICS



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# ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS: AERODYNAMICS

- **Higher Rotor efficiency (hover/forward flight)**

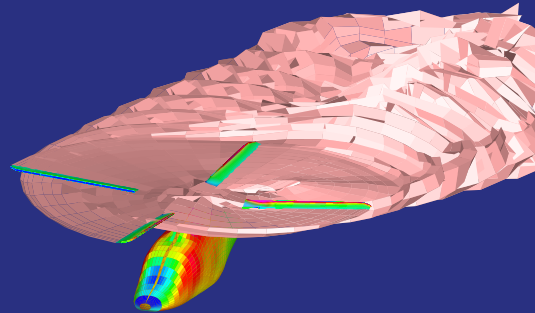
- higher payload
- higher productivity

- **Full Navier-Stokes codes**

- noise reduction
- rotor/fuselage interaction

- **Enhancement of the Wind Tunnel tests**

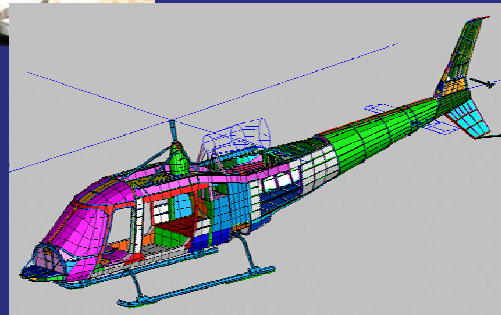
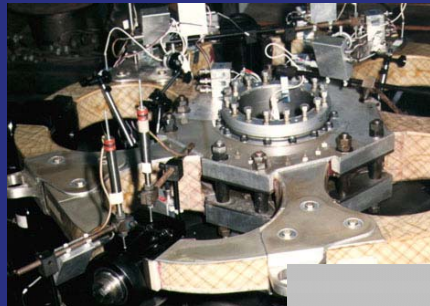
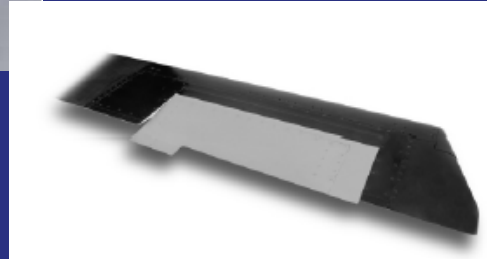
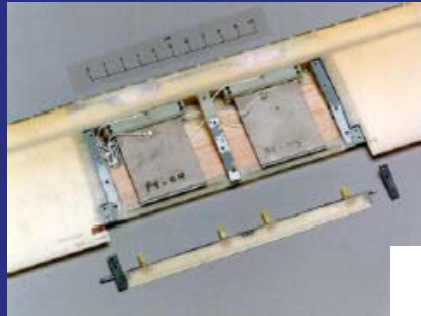
- active flow control
- active fiber composite
- study of new configurations (T/R)



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# ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS: DYNAMICS



- **Active Rotor Control (flaps, twist, tip...)**
  - reduction of rotor/fuselage vibration
  - reduction of noise
- **Enhancement of the experimental tests**
  - systems characterisation
- **Vibration Monitoring Systems**
  - rotors, drive shafts...
- **Stability enhancement**
  - Study of new configurations (T/R)

## Traditional Metallic Structure



## Composite Solutions

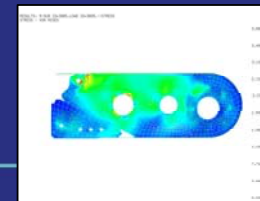


**...making compliance with the new stringent requirements:**

- ✓ Crashworthiness
- ✓ Bird Strike
- ✓ Engine disk burst impact



## Introduction of the damage tolerance



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# ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS: SIMULATION

- Development and validation of the flight mechanics codes
- Evaluation and improvement of the VTOL handling qualities
- Development of flight simulators with Pilot and hardware in the loop
  - Advanced control laws
  - Automatic emergency manoeuvres
  - load reduction

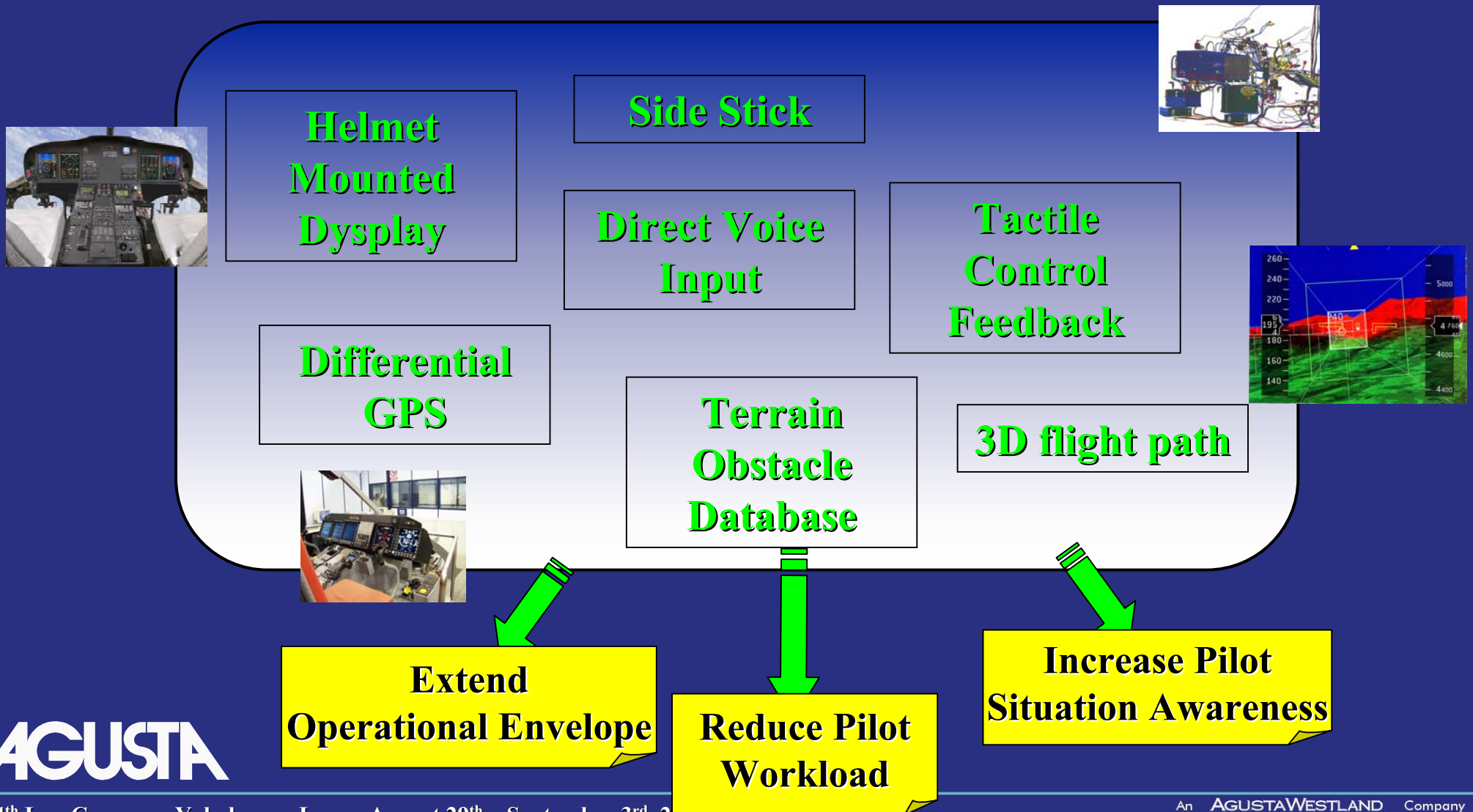


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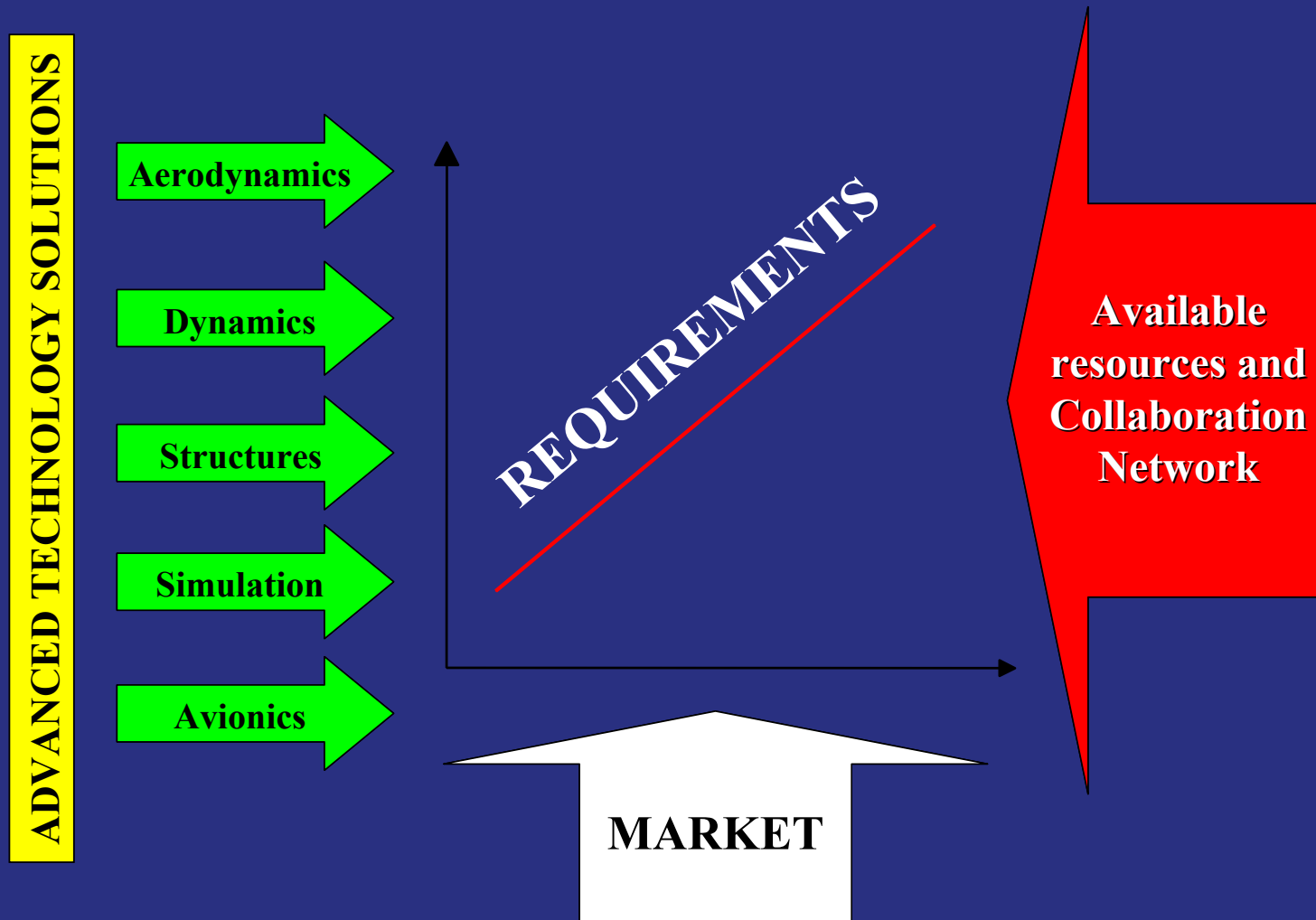


## MAN-MACHINE INTERFACE



## 6. From Technologies to product

# FROM TECHNOLOGIES TO PRODUCT



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# FROM TECHNOLOGIES TO PRODUCT



**The  
competitive  
performance  
diamond**

**An example:  
the AGUSTA A109**

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# FROM TECHNOLOGIES TO PRODUCT

## AGUSTA Collaboration Network



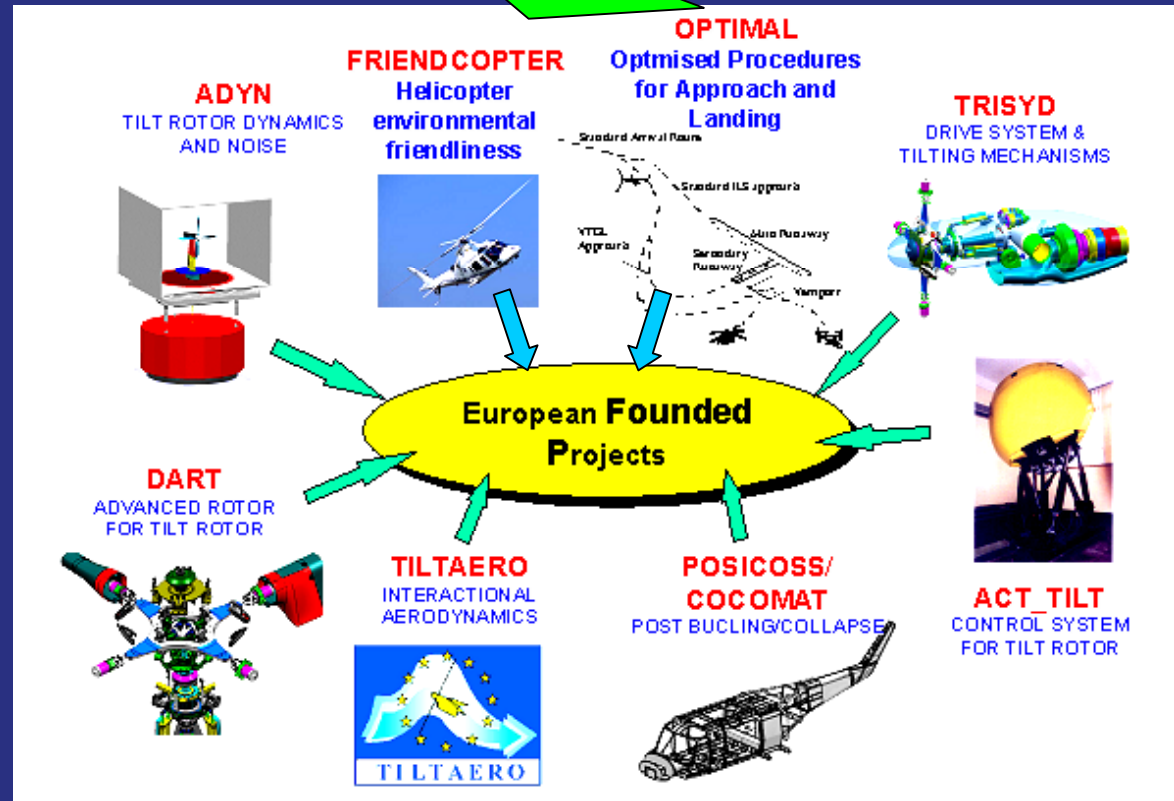
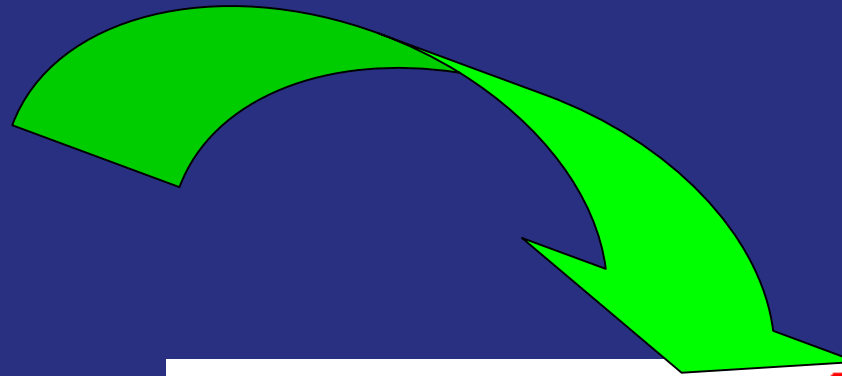
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# FROM TECHNOLOGIES TO PRODUCT



## ERICA The European Advanced Tiltrotor



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## 7. AGUSTA: the Future has began

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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN

**SUGGESTED LONG RANGE VTOL TECHNOLOGY GOALS**  
**G.Price, "Prospects for the future of the Vertical Flight",**  
**AIAA/ICAS "The Next 100 Years", 14-17 July 2003, Dayton, Ohio**

ATTRIBUTE	CURRENT LEVEL	AGUSTA TODAY	2022 TARGET
VEHICLE EFFICIENCY	Hover = 0.78	<b>0.8</b>	0.87
	L/D x Prop. Eff. = 7 at V cruise	<b>10</b>	13
CRUISE SPEED	Helicopter = 170 Kts	<b>180 Kts</b>	200 Kts
	Tiltrotor = 250 Kts	<b>275 Kts</b>	350-400 Kts
EXTERNAL NOISE	FAA Requirements	<b>-3 dB below req.</b>	60% Reduction
COCKPIT INTEGRATION	Pilot Aiding	<b>Pilot behaviour integrated in the machine</b>	Operator "directs" vehicle
ALL-WEATHER	Limited Icing Capability	<b>FULL ICING (EH101)</b>	No-Restriction to icing

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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN

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**AB139**



**BA609**

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# SUMMARY

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## The AB139

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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - AB139

## Commercial Helicopter derived from the Military A149

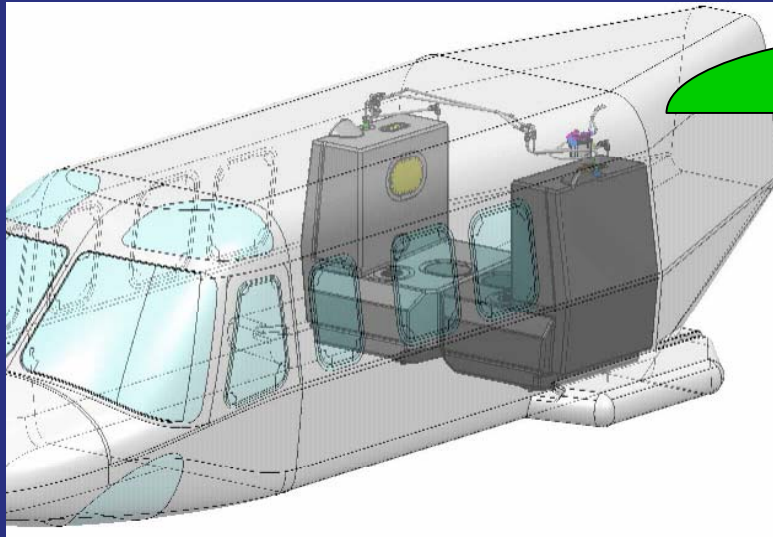
- ENGINES: P&WC PT6C-67C
- ENGINES CONTROLLED BY FADEC
- WEIGHT 6 ton
- PAYLOAD 2.5 ton
- SPEED 167 kts
- RANGE >400 nm



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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - AB139



## Better fuel tanks position

- High space in the cabin
- Better lift/drag ratio
- Better crashworthiness characteristic
- light weight
- Passenger cabin floor low over the ground for easy loading and unloading

Primary structure of aluminum alloy and nomex/aluminum panels.

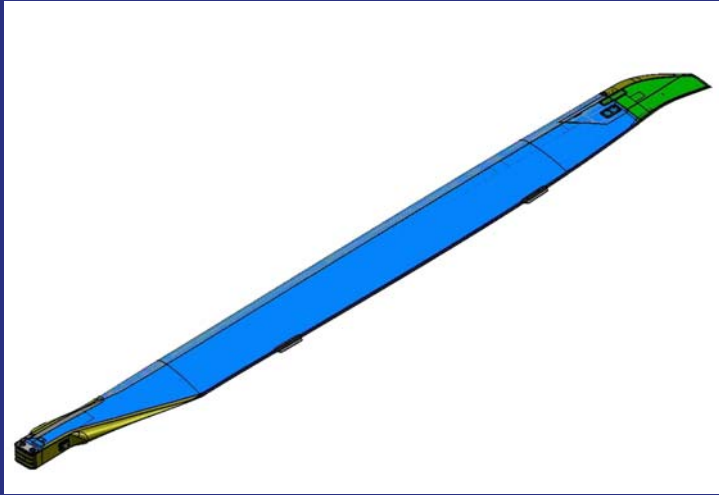
Fiber composite material are used for the secondary structure.

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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - AB139

## MAIN ROTOR



**Aerodynamically  
and dynamically  
optimised**

## TAIL ROTOR



**Canted:**

- Shorter mast
- higher performance

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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - AB139

## Avionics System

### Primus Epic™ Avionics System (Honeywell)

## Electronic Display System

- ✓ Navigation and Engine data
- ✓ Systems parameters
- ✓ Caution, warning and advisory annunciation
- ✓ Windows-style Operating System
- ✓ Voice Command System
- ✓ Central Maintenance Computer

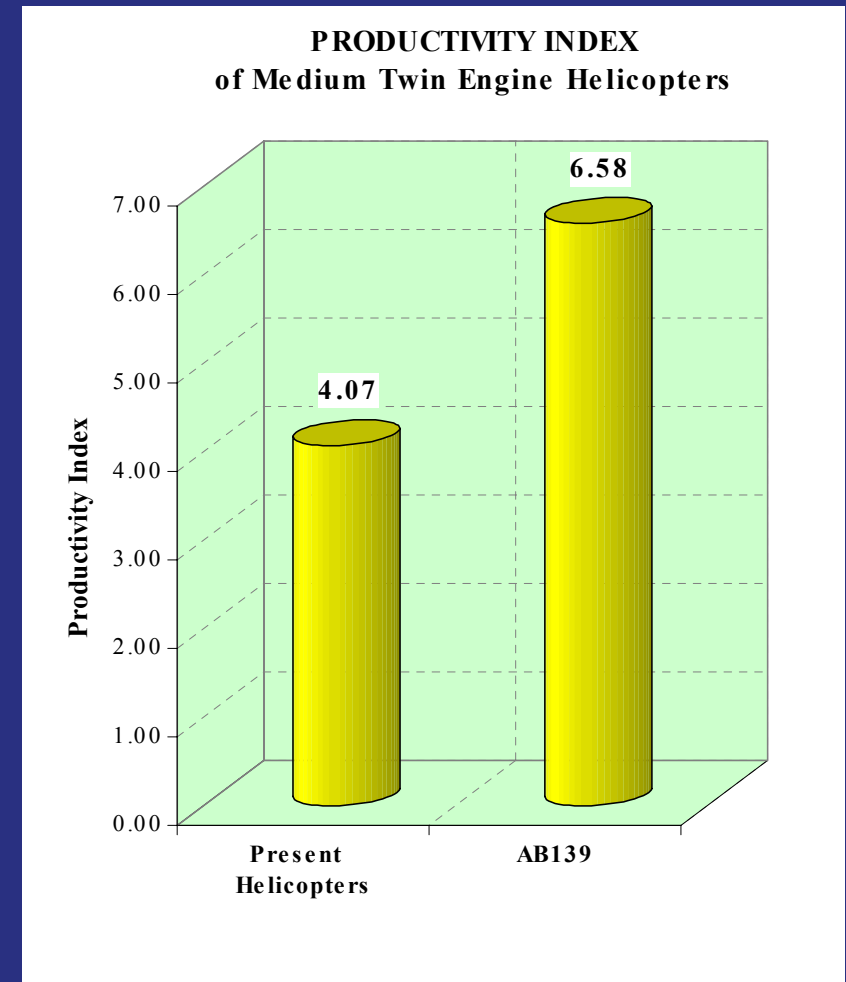
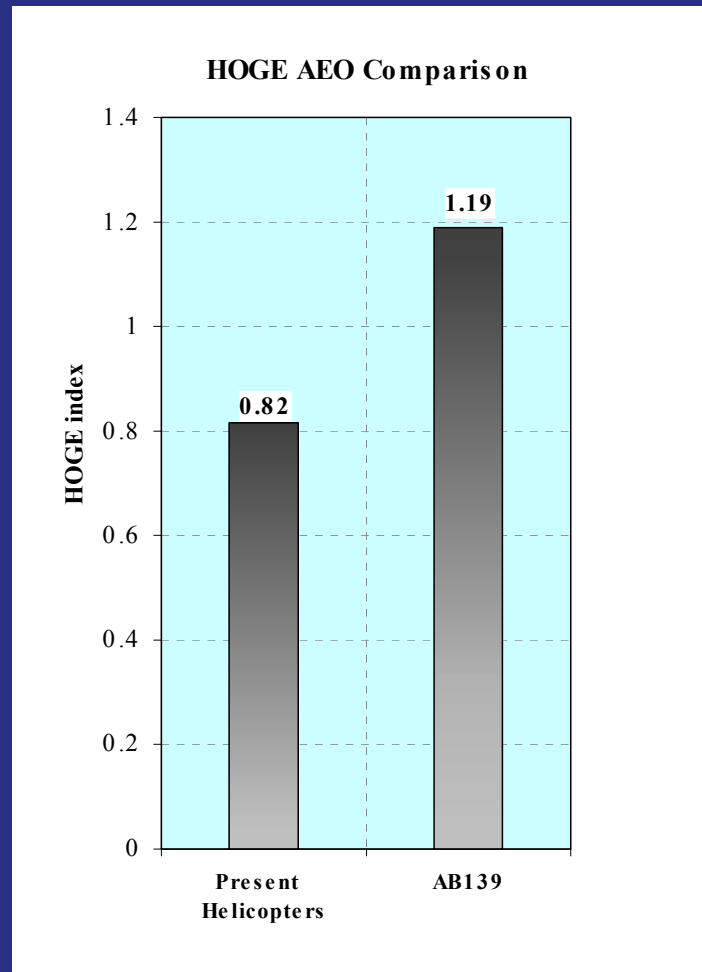


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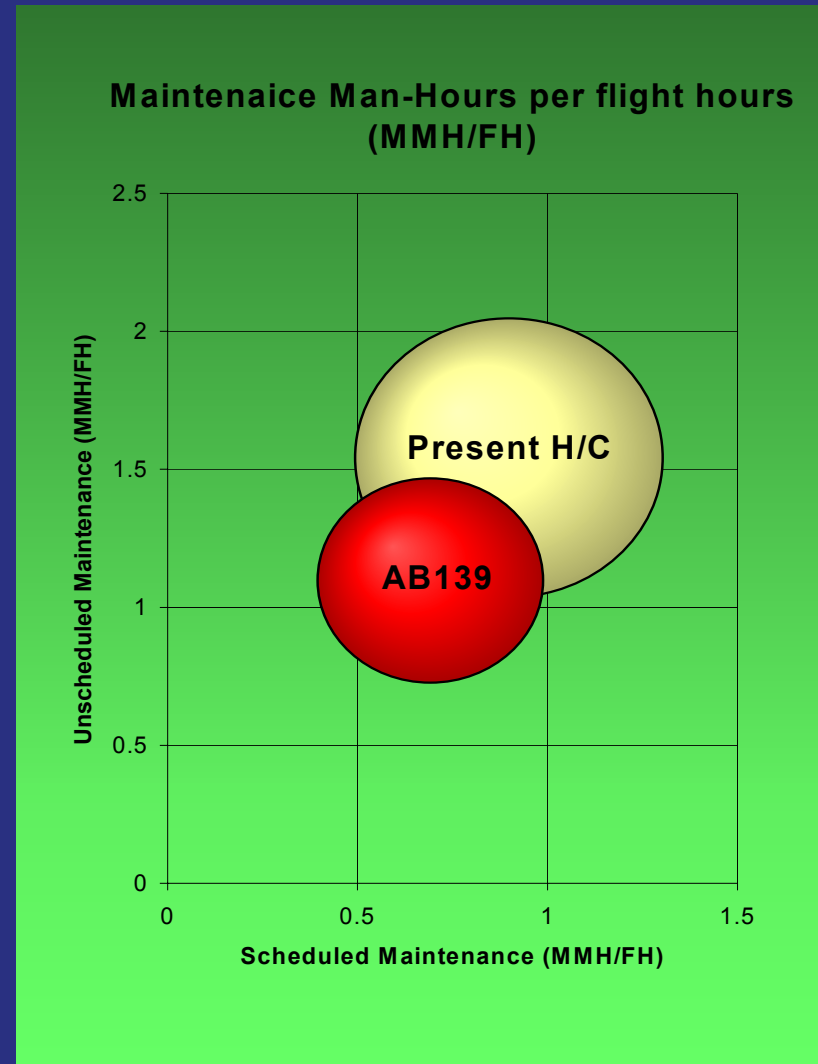
# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - AB139

## Performance



# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - AB139

$$\frac{MMH}{FH} = \left( \frac{MMH}{FH} \right)_{SCHED} + \frac{MTTR}{MTBF}$$



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# SUMMARY

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# The BA609

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## Capacities

Crew	1-2
Passengers seats	6-9
Baggage comp. Volume	1.42 m <sup>3</sup>

## Propulsion

Two P&W PT6C-67A (1940 Shp each)

## Weights & dimensions

Max take off weight	7250 kg
Empty weight	4760 kg
Useful load	2500 kg
Rotor Diameter	7.9 m

## Performance

Max Cruise Speed	275 kts
Max Range	750 nm
Cruise Altitude	7620 m

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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - BA609

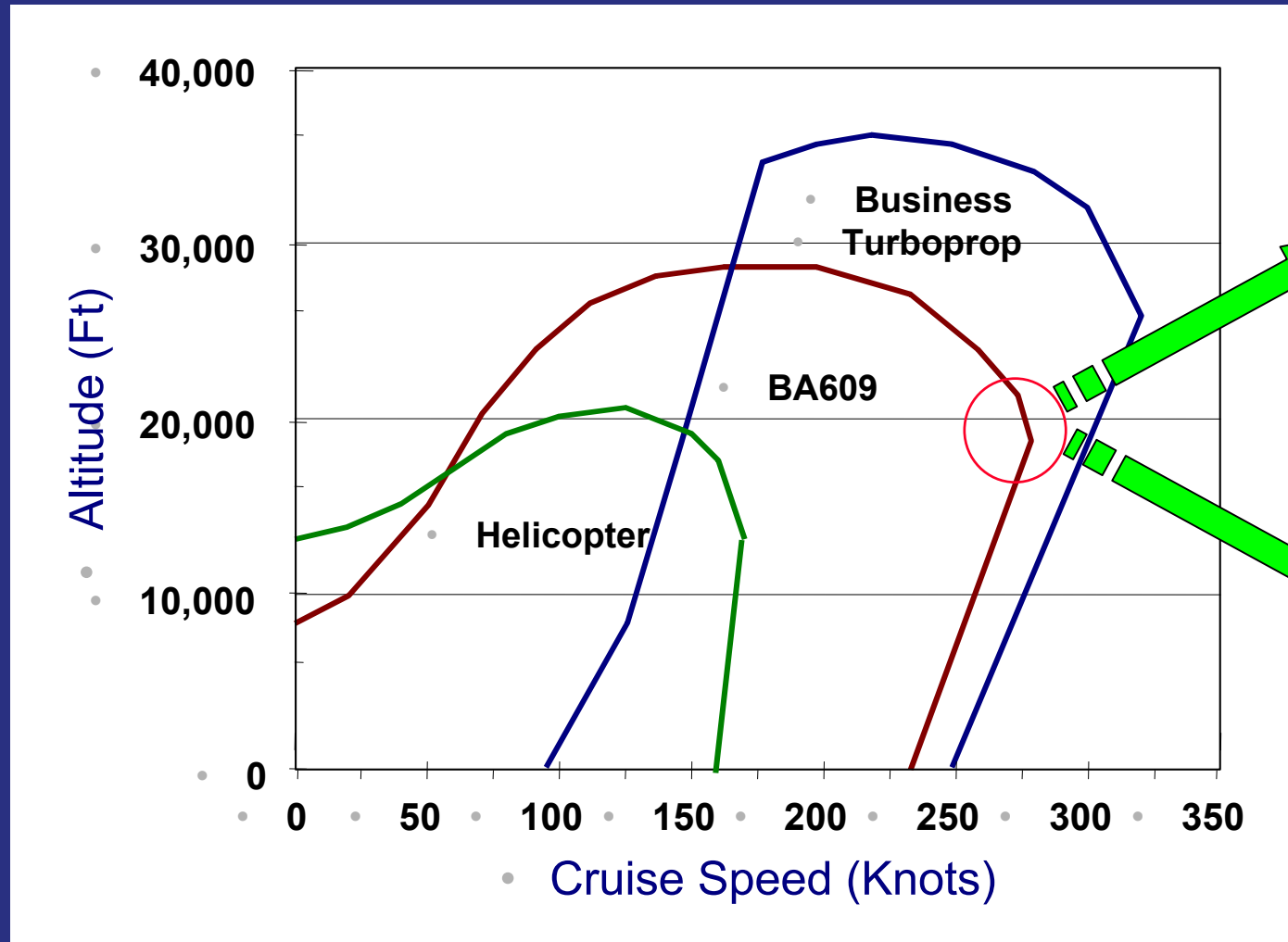
## Missions



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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - BA609

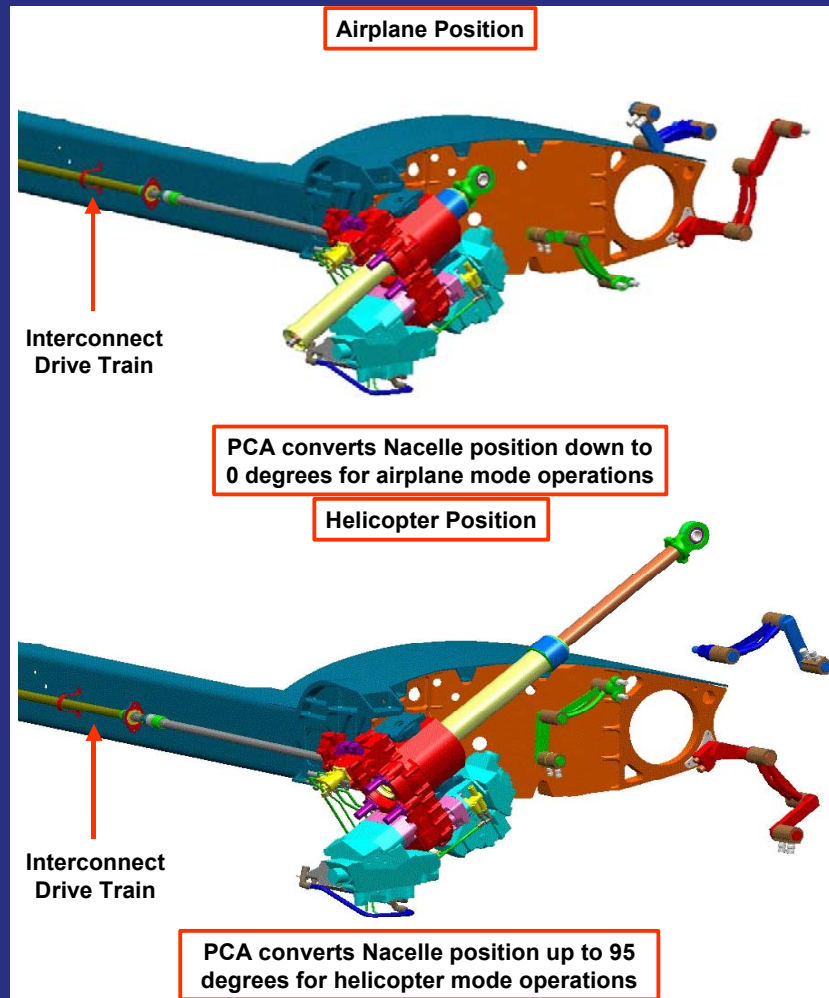


**Vcruise  
275 Kts**

**High  
cruise  
altitude**



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## Nacelle tilting mechanism

- Satisfy severe safety requirements
- Double telescoping ballscrews
- Interconnecting shaft
- Angular displacement transducer

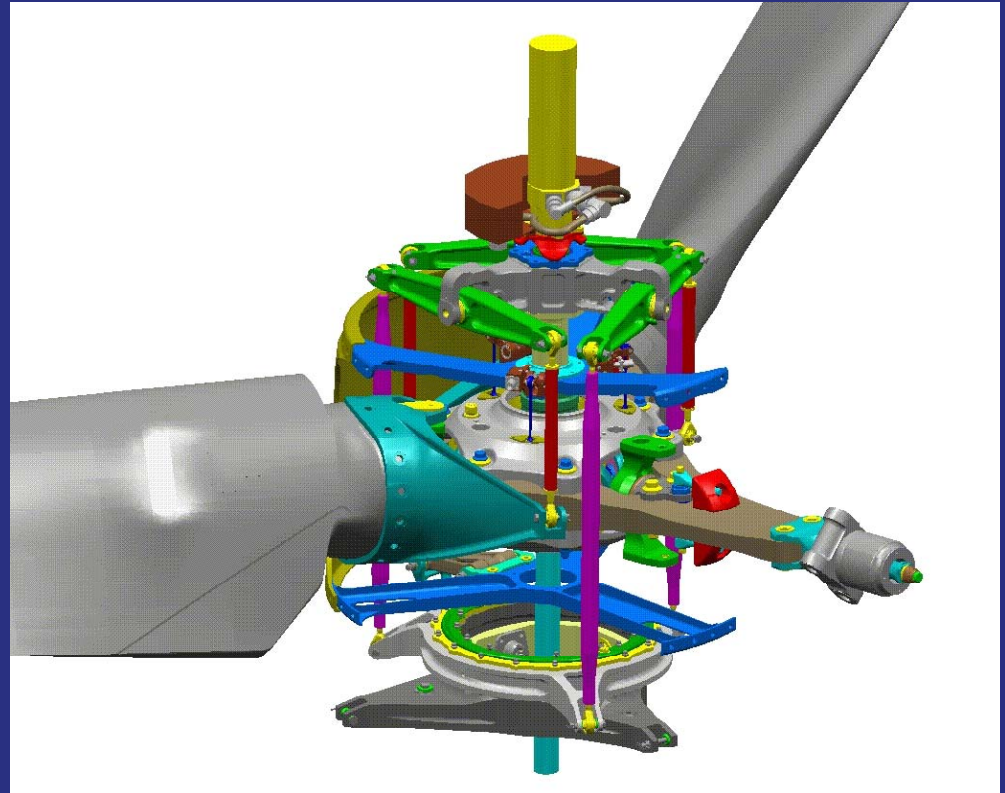
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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - BA609

## Rotor System

- 3 blades
- optimal twist for hover and cruise
- gimbal joint
- different elastomeric components
- deicing system



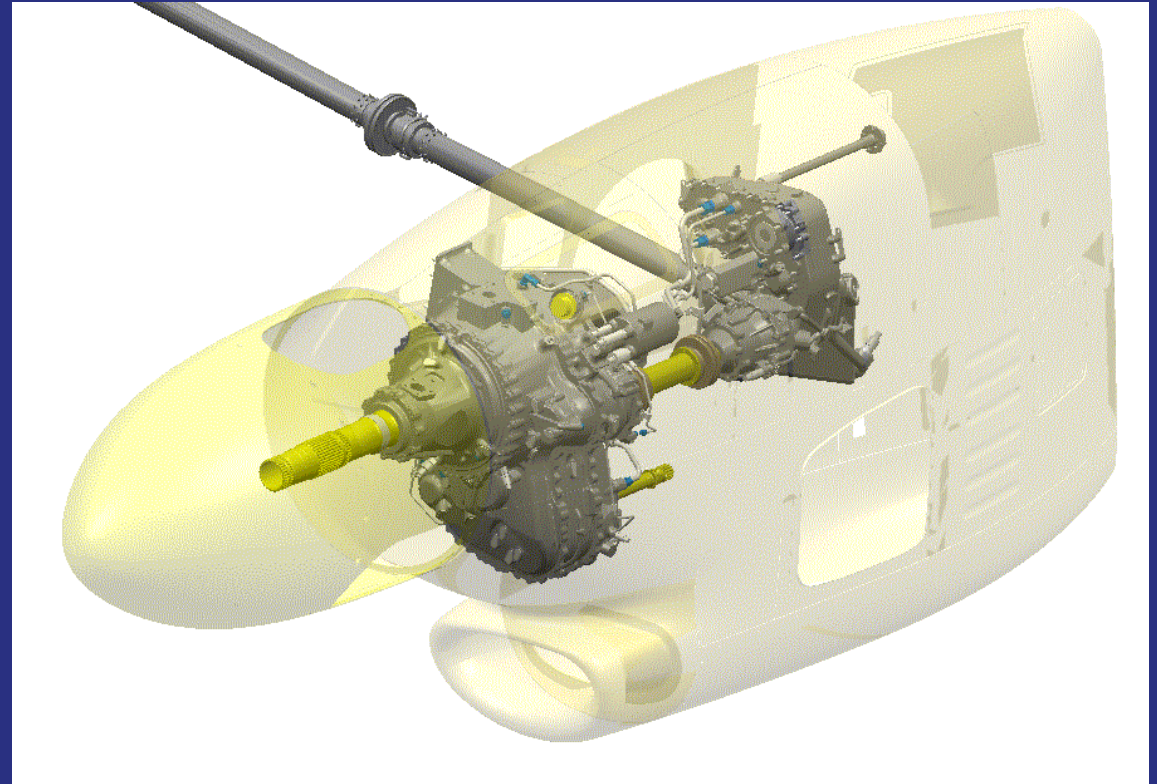
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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - BA609

## Drive System

- Interconnecting shaft
- Drive of both rotors in case of engine failure
- No asymmetric flight or controls



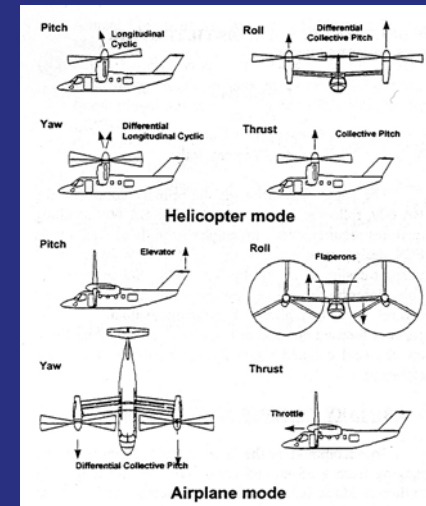
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# AGUSTA: THE FUTURE HAS BEGUN - BA609

## Flight Control System

- Core of the BA609
- Fly-by-wire
  - ✓ minimise pilot workload
  - ✓ satisfy handling qualities req.
- Conversion from H/M to A/M and reverse
- Conventional helicopter cockpit controls
- Triplex flight control computers



- Control laws fully tested through Pilot-in-the-loop flight simulation techniques.
- Thousands of virtual maneuvers
- 3 dedicated simulators with pilots and hardware in the loop
- optimised handling qualities of the aircraft
- tested all possible failures and emergency procedures.

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# CONCLUSIONS

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- In the airspace future, the vertical flight will have a greater importance than today
- The goals of the rotorcraft industry are to integrate the technology into business
- AGUSTA, with the two last products, the AB139 and the BA609, has begun the future
- Finmeccanica, the AGUSTA shareholder, has decided to strengthen the helicopter sector as one of its main core business
- Finmeccanica announced the agreement with GKN for the acquisition of the latter's 50% shareholding in AgustaWestland.
- Agusta will benefit of greater resources to reinforce its position to stay in the forefront of the vertical flight business of the two guiding avenues of both the conventional helicopter and the revolutionary Tilt-Rotor.

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