

## **PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



# **Metro Aviation launches new Garmin GTN 650/750 Xi STC with Geisinger Life Flight**

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Geisinger Life Flight is flying high in Pennsylvania with a newly refurbished EC145, equipped with Metro Aviation's newest STC for the Garmin GTN 650/750 Xi series, certified for SPIFR (Single Pilot Instrument Flight Rules) use in the EC145. The Garmin 650/750 Xi allows pilots to visualize the entire flight plan, including holds and approaches, on a high-resolution touchscreen.

Geisinger's aircraft was delivered during a milestone year, as the program is celebrating 40 years of providing lifesaving care to Geisinger's service area and beyond. The Life Flight fleet consists of nine helicopters and averages over 3,600 transports per year.

"Our mission is to help save lives by providing the highest level of critical care available outside of a hospital and doing so with safety as our top priority," said Gerald Splitt, Geisinger Life Flight program director. "This new equipment installed in our newest aircraft will help our crews better deliver on our mission, and we're fortunate to have a great partner in Metro Aviation to help integrate the latest in aircraft technology into our program."

Metro Aviation installed the new Garmin equipment in Geisinger's EC145 cockpit, along with a complete medical interior that can accommodate three medical providers and up to two patients. Medical mounts installed by Metro secure ventilators, IV pumps, and multifunctional monitors. The aircraft is a flying intensive care unit.

The Garmin 650/750 Xi multifunction display supports multiple inputs, and can show moving maps, terrain, traffic, weather, airport diagrams, and more. The new STC was designed to be used on a complete installation, or for eventual upgrades to the nearly 100 EC145's in operation now. The new STC also includes the Garmin GTX345R, GDL 69H, TAS605A, GWX75H, HTAWS and ADS-B. This new STC rolls up many of the new features that were not previously available in the GNS series of equipment.

Metro Aviation received a second STC for the Garmin GTN 650/750 for the Airbus EC135.

Geisinger Life Flight has completed more than 75,000 transports in its 40 years and is the second-largest air ambulance service in Pennsylvania. The program's fleet includes one BK117-C1 and eight Airbus EC145 helicopters. With a staff of approximately 150 employees, Geisinger Life Flight operates six of its nine aircraft around the clock from bases in central and northeastern Pennsylvania. Life Flight is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems and holds its own Air Carrier certificate through the Federal Aviation Administration.

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**About Geisinger:**

Geisinger is committed to making better health easier for the more than 1 million people it serves. Founded more than 100 years ago by Abigail Geisinger, the system now includes nine hospital campuses, a health plan with more than half a million members, two research centers and the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine. With nearly 24,000 employees and more than 1,600 employed physicians, Geisinger boosts its hometown economies in Pennsylvania by billions of dollars annually. Learn more at [geisinger.org](http://geisinger.org) or connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

**About Metro Aviation:**

Metro Aviation, Inc., based in Shreveport, Louisiana, United States is a worldwide provider of completion services for all missions and types of helicopters and specializes in the EC135 and EC145 with several Supplemental Type Certificates (STC) developed by the company for these and other aircraft. Metro is an FAA approved repair station, approved Airbus Service Center and FAR Part 135 air medical operations provider at several locations across the United States. The company is privately held and is one of the largest traditional air medical providers in the country. For additional information regarding Metro Aviation, Inc. and any of its products or services, please contact Kristen King Holmes at 318.698.5200 or [kking@metroaviation.com](mailto:kking@metroaviation.com).

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