Leonardo: AW139s to support Queensland Government’s helicopter fleet modernization programme

- Order signed for two AW139s that will enter service by December 2018
- The aircraft will add to three AW139s already in service performing EMS/SAR missions
- Over 1000 AW139s have been ordered by more than 250 customers in nearly 70 countries to date

Rome, 24 October 2017 – Leonardo announced today that the Government of Queensland in Australia has placed an order for two additional AgustaWestland AW139 intermediate twin engine helicopters. The aircrafts are expected to enter into service by December 2018 performing emergency medical services and search and rescue missions over land and sea. The AW139s will replace two older helicopter models as part of a fleet modernization programme and reduce maintenance costs.

With world leading capability, performance, ride quality and cabin space, the AW139 has been chosen for its ability to meet the Queensland Government’s operational requirements. These helicopters will add to three AW139s already in service with the Queensland Government, further strengthening the State’s air rescue capabilities and leveraging efficiencies in support, maintenance and training. The new aircraft will be operated by Queensland Government Air (QGAir), a division of the Queensland Government’s Public Safety Business Agency and will be based in Townsville. The aircraft will also serve across all of North Queensland and will be subject to fleet rotation between North and South when needed, in order to ensure the optimum coverage for the State’s community.

This latest order further reinforces the presence of Leonardo in the Australian market with more than 120 helicopters of various models ordered to date for both commercial, public utility and military roles. In the last few years the AW139 has proven to be the most successful EMS helicopter in Australia with 30 already in service with various customers.

Note to editors on the AW139 helicopter
The AW139 sets new standards as a result of its advanced technology, high performance, reliability, safety, role flexibility and cabin space. Its modern avionics reduce crew workload allowing the pilot to focus on the mission. Over 250 customers from around 70 nations have already ordered nearly 1,000 AW139s, almost 900 of which are in service, confirming itself as the bestselling aircraft in its category. The AW139 is able to perform a wide range of roles including EMS, SAR, firefighting, law enforcement corporate/VIP & offshore transport.