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AgustaWestland has been awarded a contract with a value of EUR 560 million by the Indian Air Force for twelve AW101 Helicopters

AgustaWestland, a Finmeccanica company, has been awarded a contract with a value of EUR 560 million by the Indian Air Force for the supply of 12 AW101 helicopters for government transport.

The AW101 provides excellent levels of safety for Head of State and government transport duties. Features such as three engines give the aircraft unmatched performance and safety in the event of an engine failure. Over 180 AW101 helicopters have been ordered or are being operated in various countries also including Italy, UK, Denmark, Portugal, Japan and Canada.

The AW101 was selected by the Indian Armed Force thanks to its superior features in terms of performance in hot&high and all-weather capability, cabin space and comfort, dedicated technology and self-protection solutions, safety and low operating costs.

Expressing his satisfaction with the order win, Pier Francesco Guarguaglini, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Finmeccanica, said: "The contract signed with the Indian Air Force confirms the quality of our products, based on technological excellence, and the effectiveness of our strategy of focusing on expansion into new markets. In recent years, AgustaWestland has built on its presence in the Indian commercial helicopter market with the sale of over 30 commercial aircraft and the signing of a shareholder agreement with Tata Sons in February 2010 for the formation of an Indian joint venture to establish a final assembly line for the AW119 helicopter in India."