

# Weststar orders four helicopters for RM150m

**PETALING JAYA:** Weststar General Aviation has signed two contracts worth RM150 million for the order of four helicopters at the LIMA Exhibition 2015.

The first contract order was signed with AgustaWestland for the purchase of three new generation helicopters namely AW119Kx, AW109 GrandNew and AW169 at LIMA Exhibition 2015 worth RM90 million.

With the addition of the three helicopters, Weststar General Aviation will now start operating AgustaWestland helicopters for executive and corporate transport services, Weststar announced in its press release yesterday.

The contract, signed between Weststar Group of Companies group managing director Tan Sri Syed Azman Syed Ibrahim, and AgustaWestland senior vice president Commercial Business Unit Emilio Dalmaso, was witnessed by Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein.

"We want to strengthen our market position and the purchase of the four new helicopters will

boost our current market share," Syed Azman said.

Each of the three helicopters ordered, in their respective category spans from single engine to light intermediate twin aircraft.

Whereas, another company within the Weststar Group, Weststar Aviation Services that provides offshore helicopter transportation services will be the first in the region to operate the AW189 helicopter at a delivery ceremony held earlier at the trade exhibition.

The helicopter can carry up to 19 passengers and is the first out of four Weststar Aviation Services had ordered at the previous LIMA'13.

Possessing an expansive fleet of AgustaWestland helicopters, Weststar Aviation Services has been operating AW139 helicopters in operations to support the oil and gas industry since 2011 in Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco and Thailand.

This latest contract brings the total number of helicopters to 54.