



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Release No:** APR-225  
**Contact:** Patricia Woodside  
Director, Public Relations  
(703) 396-6304  
[pwoodside@aurora.aero](mailto:pwoodside@aurora.aero)

## AURORA SELECTED BY SIKORSKY AIRCRAFT TO PROVIDE CH-53K ENGINE NACELLES

**BRIDGEPORT, WV**, January 21, 2009 – Aurora Flight Sciences announced today that it has been selected by Sikorsky Aircraft to manufacture the engine nacelles for the latest-generation heavy-lift military helicopter, the CH-53K that Sikorsky is developing for the U.S. Marine Corps. Sikorsky is a subsidiary of United Technologies Corp. (NYSE:UTX).

The Engine Nacelles' assembly is one of the major propulsion sections and houses the CH-53K's No. 1 and 3 engines. Made primarily of composite and titanium materials, the Nacelle will be fabricated by Aurora Flight Sciences of West Virginia and shipped to Sikorsky for integration into the U.S. Marine Corps helicopter.

The three-engine CH-53K will be the world's premier heavy-lift helicopter. It is a new design leveraging the lessons learned from almost half a century of manufacturing and operating the earlier CH-53E SUPERSTALLION helicopter.

In April 2006, Sikorsky Aircraft was awarded the System Development and Demonstration (SDD) contract for the CH-53K Heavy Lift Replacement Aircraft Program. The SDD contract could lead to the production of 156 CH-53K aircraft. The CH-53K's maximum gross weight will increase to 88,000 pounds versus 73,500 pounds for the CH-53E.

"Aurora Flight Sciences designs and builds lightweight composite aircraft structures for manned and unmanned aircraft. Our role in designing and building the Nacelle for the CH-53K is a logical extension of our current work on the CH-53K Main Rotor Pylon (MRP) which was awarded in May 2007," said Aurora President John Langford.

The SDD phase of the program begins immediately. Nacelle assemblies will initially be built for five test and certification aircraft (four Engineering Development Models and one Ground Test Vehicle). The CH-53K SDD program schedule runs through the end of 2015.

### About Aurora Flight Sciences

Aurora Flight Sciences develops and provides robotic aircraft and other advanced aerospace vehicles for scientific and military applications. Aurora is headquartered in Manassas, VA and operates production plants in Bridgeport, WV and Columbus, MS and a Research and Development Center in Cambridge, MA. Please visit our web site at [www.aurora.aero](http://www.aurora.aero).

[Aurora Flight Sciences Corporation](http://www.aurora.aero)

[www.aurora.aero](http://www.aurora.aero)

9950 Wakeman Drive  
Manassas, VA 20110-2702  
703-369-3633 • Fax 703-369-4514

3000 East Benedum Industrial Drive  
Bridgeport, WV 26330-9683  
304-842-8100 • Fax 304-842-8116

One Broadway, 12th Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02142-1100  
617-500-4800 • Fax 617-500-4810

2502 Airport Road  
Columbus, MS 39701  
662-328-8227 • Fax 662-328-8971

## About Sikorsky Aircraft

Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., based in Stratford, CT, is a world leader in helicopter design, manufacture and service. Its mission statement reflects the company's long commitment to safety and innovation: "We pioneer flight solutions that bring people home everywhere... every time™." More information is available at the interactive [www.sikorsky.com](http://www.sikorsky.com) Web site. United Technologies Corp., based in Hartford, CT, provides a broad range of high technology products and support services to the aerospace and building systems industries.

#####

---

### Aurora Flight Sciences Corporation

[www.aurora.aero](http://www.aurora.aero)

9950 Wakeman Drive  
Manassas, VA 20110-2702  
703-369-3633 ▪ Fax 703-369-4514

3000 East Benedum Industrial Drive  
Bridgeport, WV 26330-9683  
304-842-8100 ▪ Fax 304-842-8116

One Broadway, 14th Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02142-1100  
617-225-4377 ▪ Fax 617-225-4423

2502 Airport Road  
Columbus, MS 39701  
662-328-8227 ▪ Fax 662-328-8971