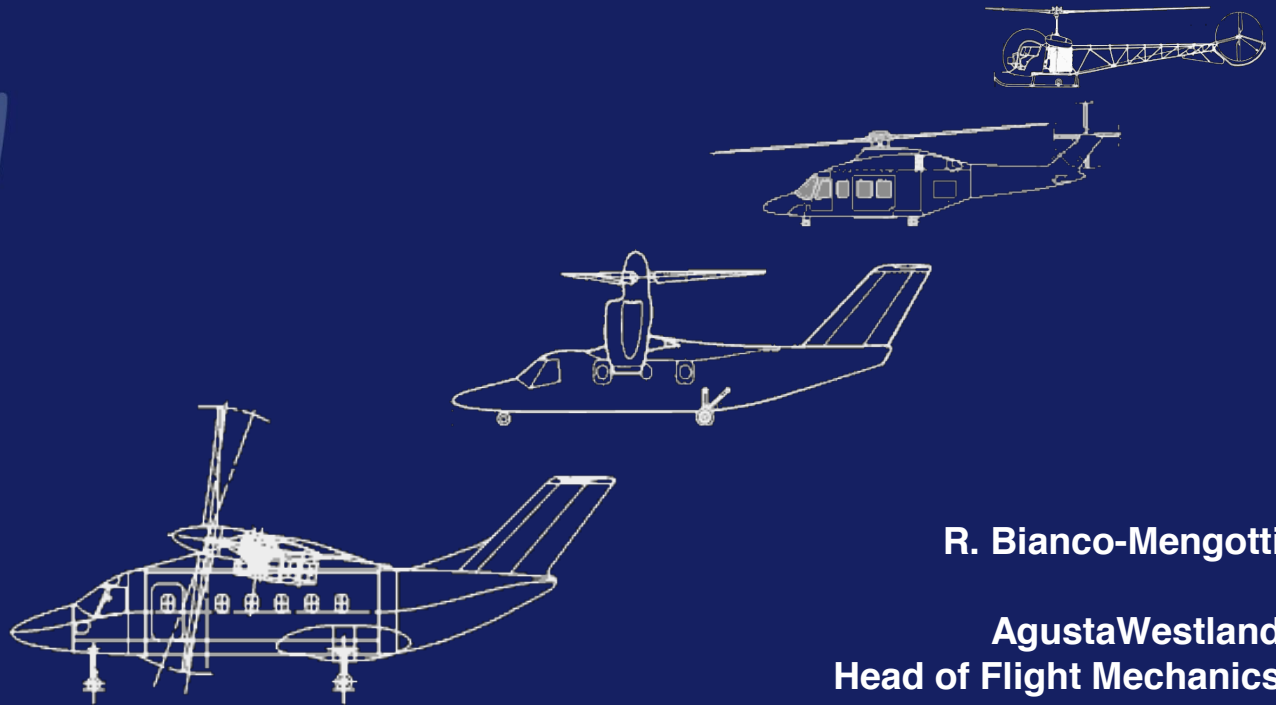


# Technological Challenges for the Future of Rotary Wing

# The AgustaWestland Path to

# the New Generation Tilt-rotor



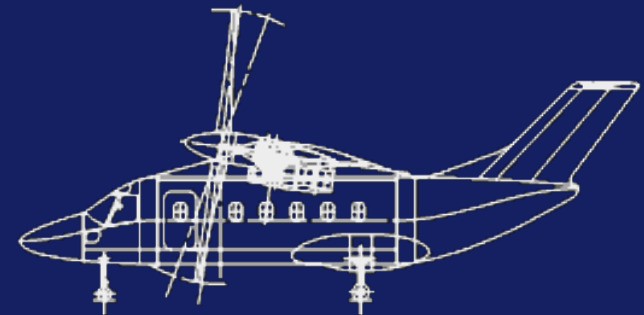
**R. Bianco-Mengotti**

**AgustaWestland**  
**Head of Flight Mechanics**

**Centro Alti Studi per la Difesa**  
**Rome, 22/11/2012**

# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation Tiltrotor

- **Helicopter Design Challenges**
- **The AgustaWestland answers**
- **The Advanced Helicopter**
- **The AW609 TiltRotor**
- **The New Generation Tiltrotor**
- **Conclusions**



## Why the Helicopter role is still invaluable

- Following a long series of attempts and more than 35 years after the first successful fixed wing flight, the helicopter found its stable configuration and become a product
- Today, after 75 years, the helicopter's unique capabilities are still unbeatable in a number of military and civil roles

### COMMERCIAL



RESCUE & HELI-AMBULANCE  
POLICE  
CIVIL PATROL  
LAND SURVEY  
AERIAL WORK  
ISOLATED SITE REFURBISHMENT  
OIL & GAS PLATFORM SHUTTLE  
POINT to POINT TRANSPORT  
VIP / CORPORATE



### MILITARY

ANTI-TANK  
RECONNAISSANCE  
TROOP CARRIER  
COMBAT SAR.  
MARITIME (ASuW, ASW)  
PARA-MILITARY ROLES

## Why the Helicopter role is still invaluable



Where low speed capabilities are essential, the helicopter as we know it is still the best solution, in particular:

**THE MOST EFFICIENT**, thanks to the physics of low disk loading

**THE SAFEST**, thanks to OEI and autorotation capabilities

**THE HIGHEST-PAYLOAD CARRIERS**, thanks to efficiency and low empty weight

**MOST MANOEUVRABLE AND AGILE**, using thrust for control power

# Why the Helicopter role is still invaluable

Safe, fast and efficient  
**off-shore** transport



The only way to  
**support** and access  
pipelines, electro-  
ducts, remote sites



**EMS services** on time,  
fast and everywhere



Fast and reliable **point to**  
**point** connection



Civil and military fast  
sea & land SAR ops



# Helicopter: the Design of a young machine



## AIRPLANE CONFIGURATION DESIGN

- ROLE BASED, VERY OPTIMIZED AND STABLE CONFIGURATION
- ALMOST MANUFACTURER INDEPENDENT: INDEX OF A VERY CONSOLIDATED DEVELOPMENT

## HELICOPTER CONFIGURATION DESIGN

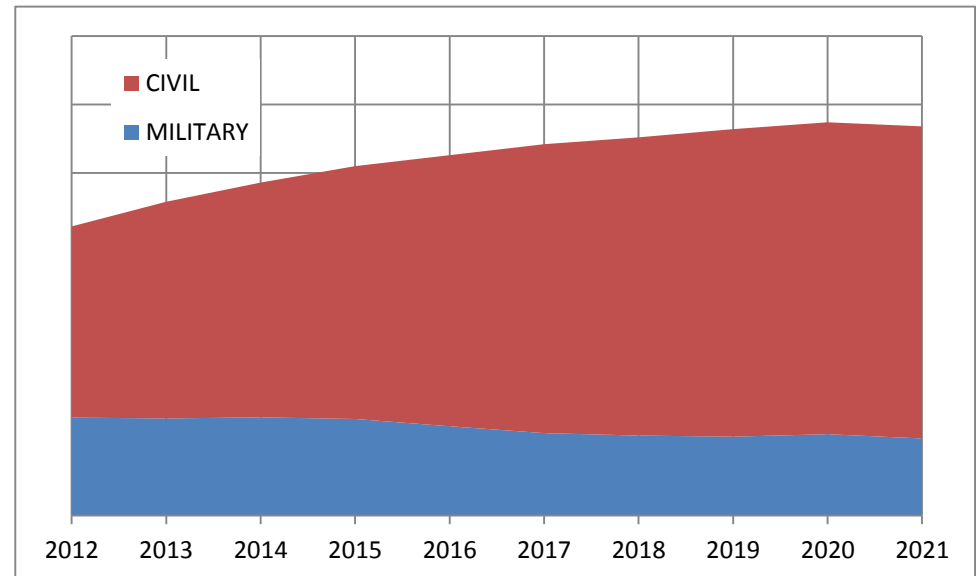
- MANUFACTURER PECULIAR CONFIGURATION
- SPECIFIC ROLES DICTATE CONFIGURATIONS
- DEVELOPMENT MATURITY STILL ON-GOING

DESIGN A NEW HELICOPTER IS STILL A HIGHLY “CREATIVE” CHALLENGE

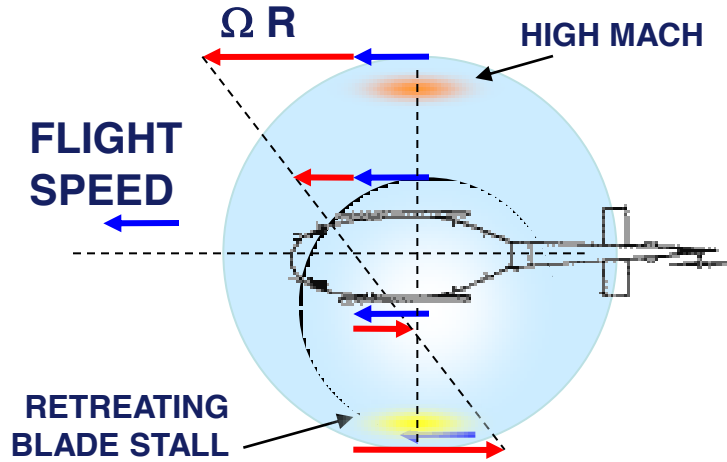
## The Market Perspective

### INCREASING DEMAND :

- ✓ Transport of people and materials
- ✓ Point to point (VIP, corporate...)
- ✓ Offshore (Oil rigs support)
- ✓ Short range transport
- ✓ Search & Rescue
- ✓ Military air mobility
- ✓ Security / Patrolling



## The Helicopter Limitations



### ✓ productivity

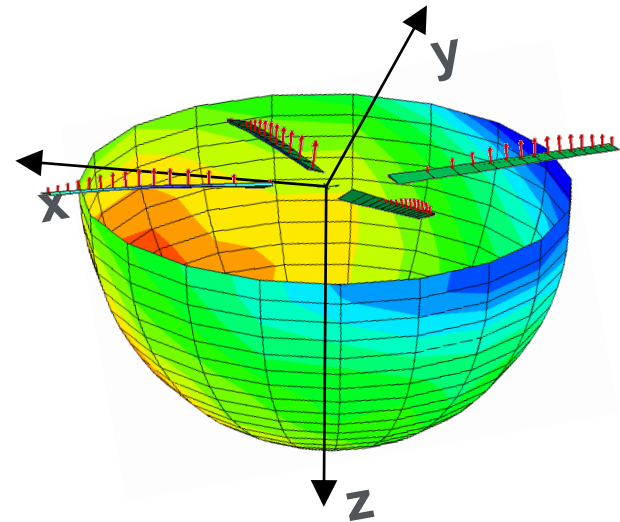
- Not all weather
- Low Speed / Range
- High operating costs

### ✓ Environmental impact

- Noise
- Pollution

### ✓ Public acceptance / Comfort

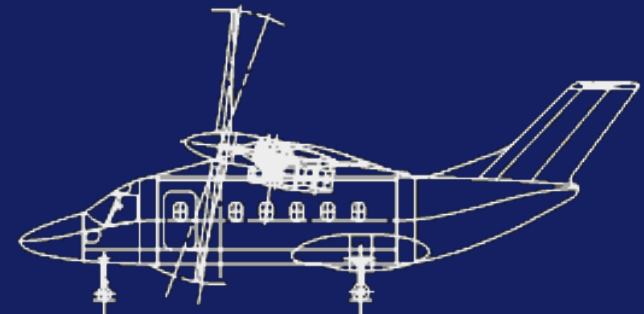
### ✓ Maturity of rules in the ATM





# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation Tiltrotor

- Helicopter Design Challenges
- **The AgustaWestland answers**
- The Advanced Helicopter
- The AW609 TiltRotor
- The New Generation Tiltrotor
- Conclusions



## Seeking for answers: new formulas

We are facing a crucial point in rotorcraft history: today several solutions are considered by industry to increase rotorcraft performance and capability.



- **AW609 - tiltrotor formula:** lift produced by rotors in H/C mode and wing in A/C mode, propulsion produced by rotors, yaw control by rotors. No anti-torque required



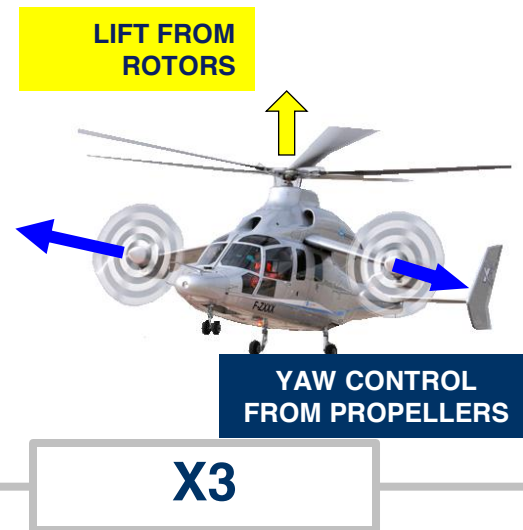
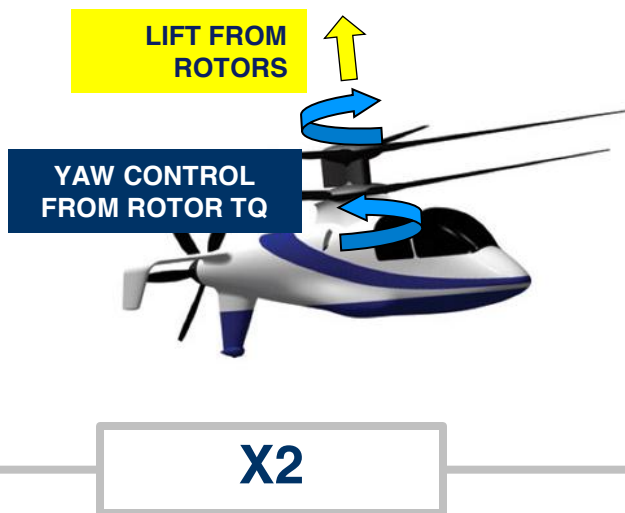
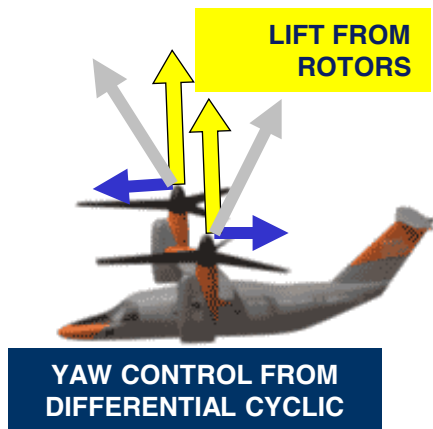
- **Sikorsky X2 - coax-compound:** lift produced by rotor, propulsion produced by propeller, yaw control by rotors. No anti-torque required



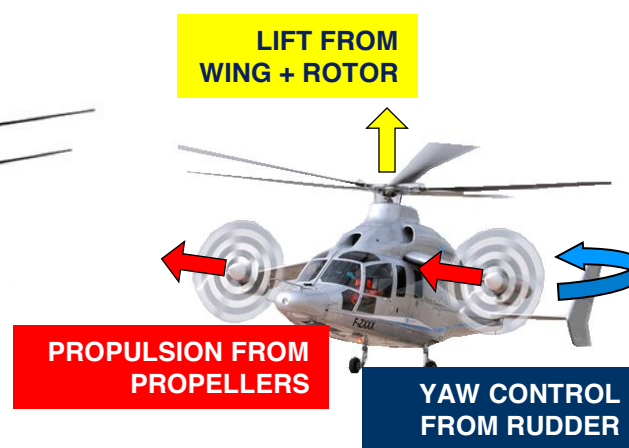
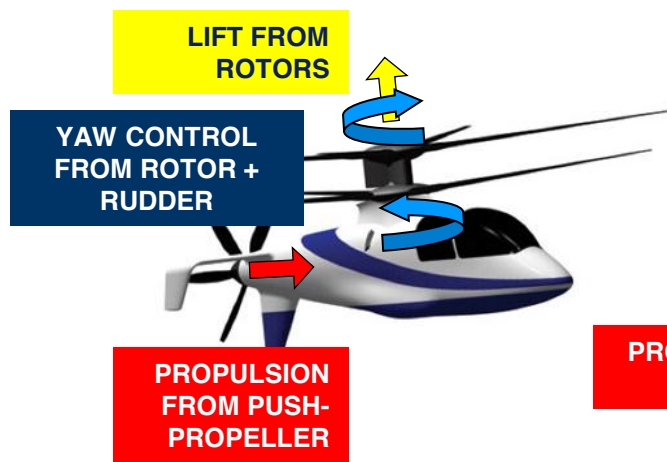
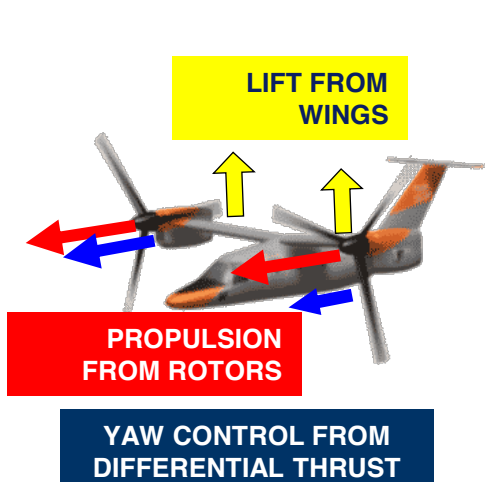
- **Eurocopter X3 - compound:** lift produced by rotor and wing, propulsion by propellers, yaw control and MR torque reaction through the propellers

# Seeking for answers: new formulas

HOVER



CRUISE



## The AgustaWestland vertical lift vision

**Hovering & low speed**



### **ADVANCED HELICOPTER**

All Weather  
Low Workload  
More speed and range  
More comfortable  
Quieter  
Low pollution  
Crashworthy

## THE TWO AVENUES in AgustaWestland Evolution

### **TILTROTOR**

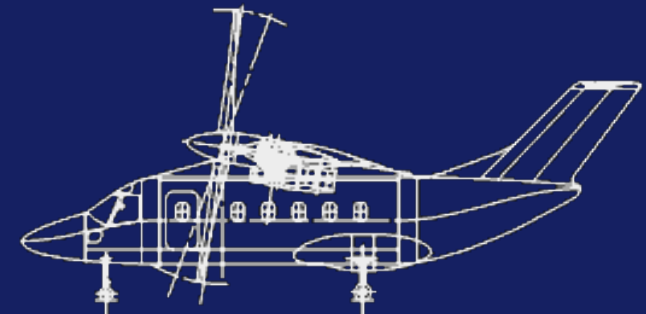
Breakthrough Technologies  
High productivity  
High speed  
Long range  
High versatility



**High Speed & Range**

# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation TiltRotor

- Helicopter Design Challenges
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- Conclusions





# The Industry Challenge



## The Advanced Helicopter



### Riding qualities

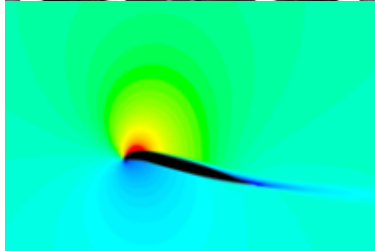
- **Comfort**
- **Low Vibes for different users in one helo (VVIP/SAR/utility)**

### Operational capability

- **Handling qualities (under various conditions)**
- **All weather helicopter**
- **Multirole platforms**



# The Advanced Helicopter

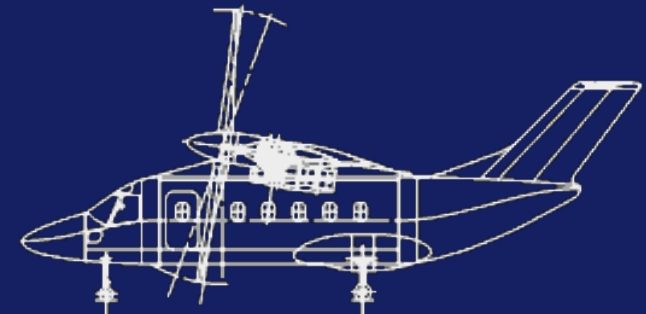
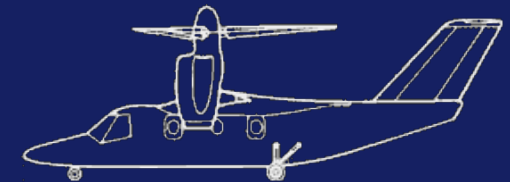


## Enabling Technologies

- Adaptive rotor speed
- Active controls
- Electrical systems
- Advanced integrated avionics
- Internal Noise passive / active abatement technologies
- Family philosophy

# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation Tiltrotor

- Helicopter Design Challenges
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# A long way to the AW609 TiltRotor

## Need to expand Helicopter performance since the Fifties

1955



1973



Tiltrotor was one of the few successful formulas experimented in the '50s-'70s

1989



Bell (and Boeing) pursued the Tiltrotor concept, successfully flying four machines before launching the BA609, first commercial Tiltrotor

1993



**1998**

Bell and Agusta partner for the BA609 development

**2003**

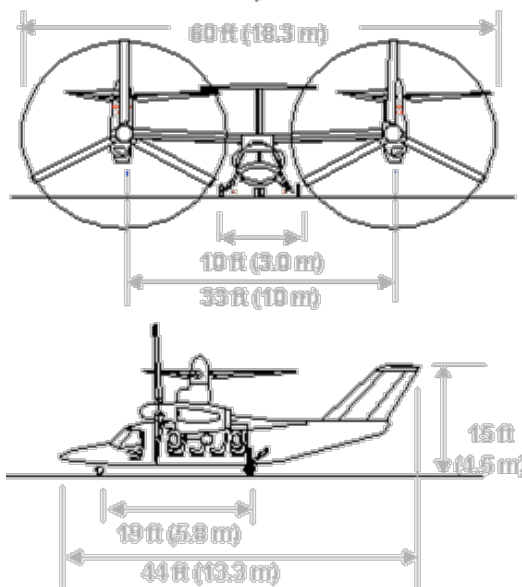
First BA609 flight

**2011**

BA609 becomes **AgustaWestland AW609**

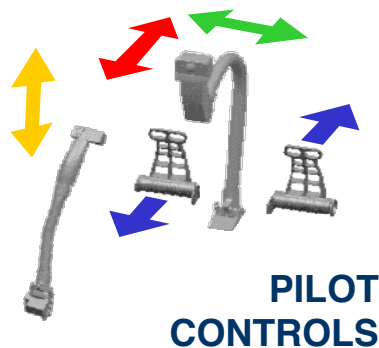


## The AW609 Main Characteristics



- **MTOW:** 7630 kg (8180 kg STOL)
  - **Useful Load:** 2,500 kg (3050 Kg STOL)
  - **Engines:** 2 x PT6C-67A (1,940 shp)
  - **Accommodation:** 2 pilots + 9 pax (std. config)
  - **Max cruise speed:** 275 ktas
  - **HOGE ISA** 5,000 ft
  - **HIGE ISA** 10,000 ft
  - **Ceiling** 25,000 ft
- 
- **A versatile platform combining the best characteristics of helicopters and turboprop aircrafts**
  - **Twice the speed and range of conventional helicopters**
  - **Pressurized Cabin**
  - **State-of-the-Art Avionics Technology**

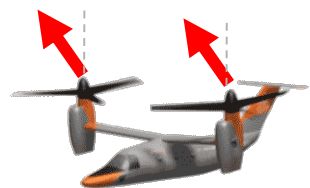
# The AW609 Morphing Flight Controls



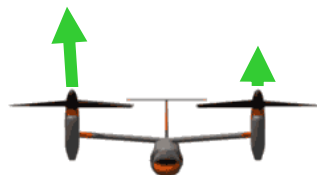
Conventional controls creating typical aircraft behaviors by different aeromechanic means

Transparent control phasing with nacelle angle

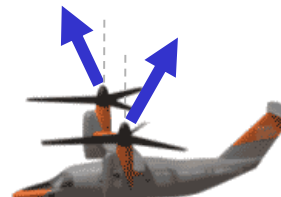
HELICOPTER



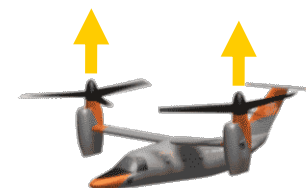
PITCH



ROLL

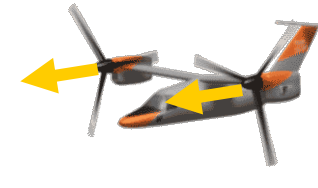
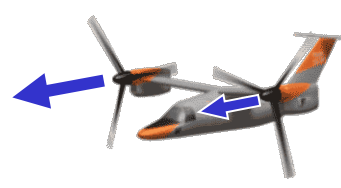
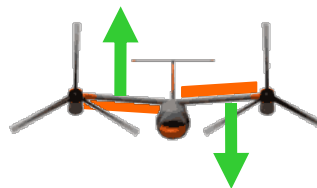


YAW



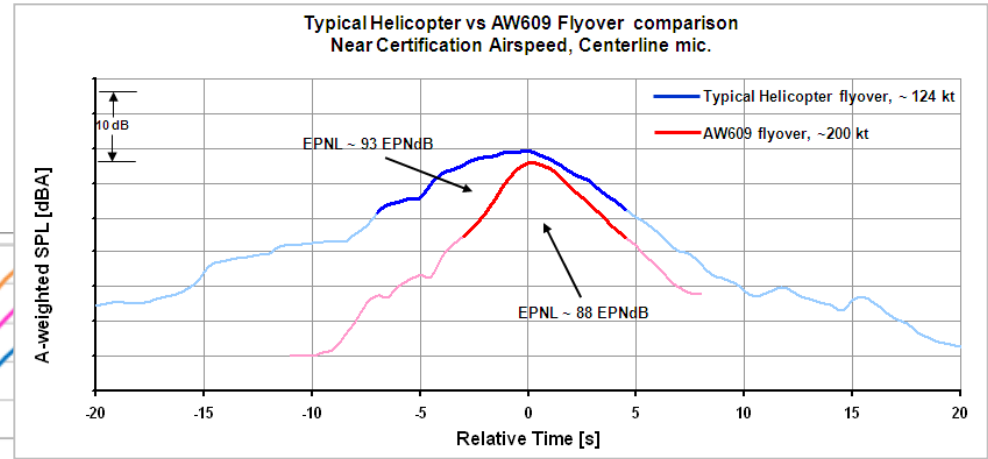
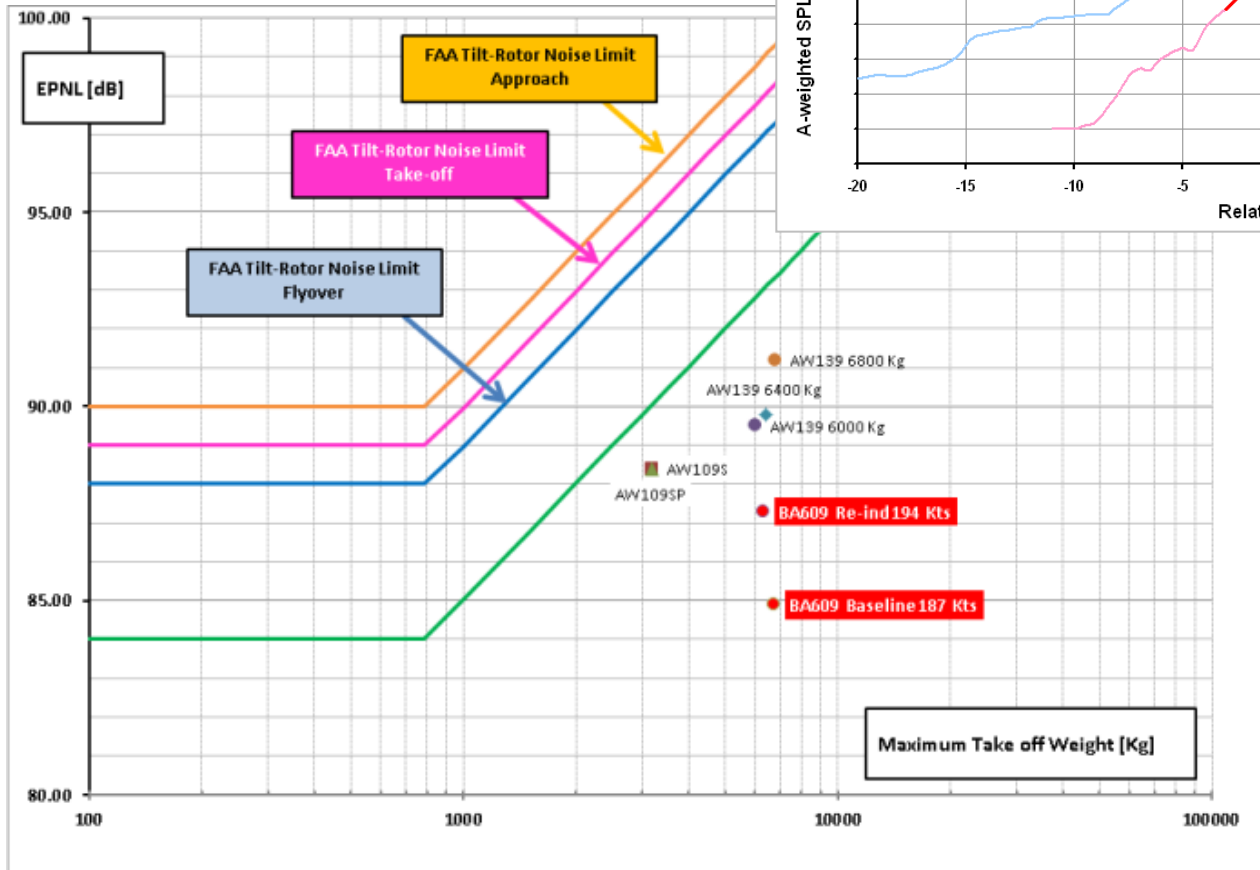
THRUST

AIRPLANE



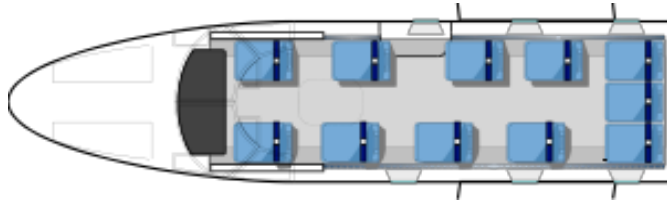
# The AW609: low noise emissions

- Low Noise
- Short Exposure Time

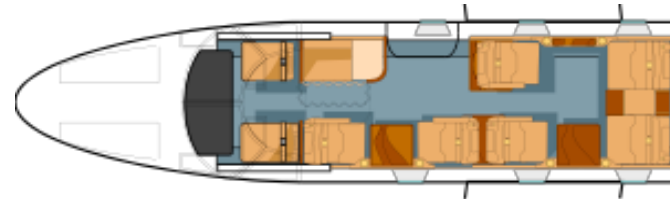


# The AW609: typical Configurations

**Standard: 9 seats**



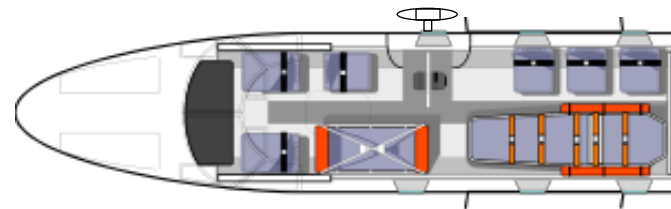
**VIP/Corporate: 6-7 seats**



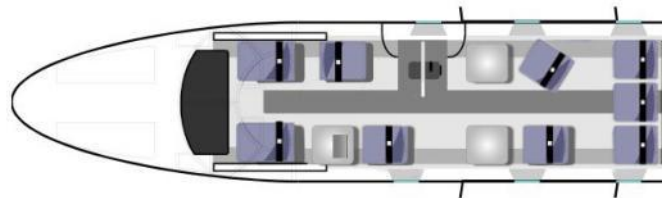
**Air Medical**



**Search and Rescue**



**Patrolling**



**Cabin versatility for multiple applications**

# The AW609: typical Roles

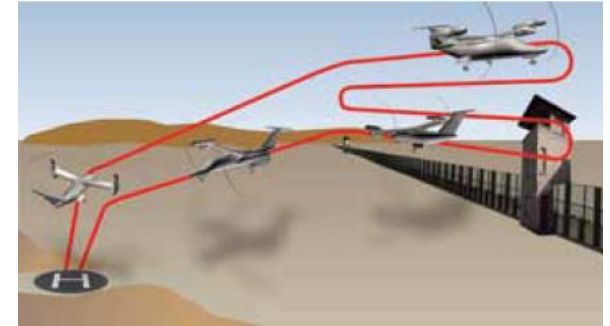
**Offshore Passenger Transport (2 + 9 pax.)**



**Search and Rescue**



**Homeland Security**



**Corporate / VIP (2 + 4 pax.)**



**Air Medical**





## The AW609: a First in Aviation

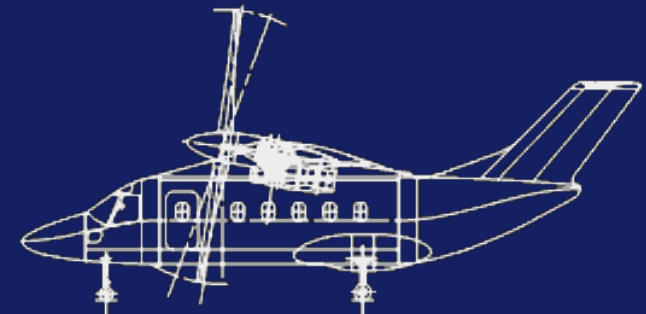
- **FIRST** Multi-role Certifiable Tiltrotor
- **FIRST** New Category to be certified since 1946
- **FIRST** Full-FBW GA aircraft
- **FIRST** pressurized rotorcraft to be certified



**Cat.A (OEI) safety standard**  
**Ice Protection**  
**Triplex full FBW FCS**  
**Rudderless yaw control**  
**Low noise / Smooth ride**  
**Rotors Connected for OEI**  
**Triplex Full Fly-By-Wire FCS**  
**Rudderless Yaw Control**  
**Level 1 Handling Qualities**  
**Autorotation Demonstrated**

# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation Tiltrotor

- Helicopter Design Challenges
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- Conclusions

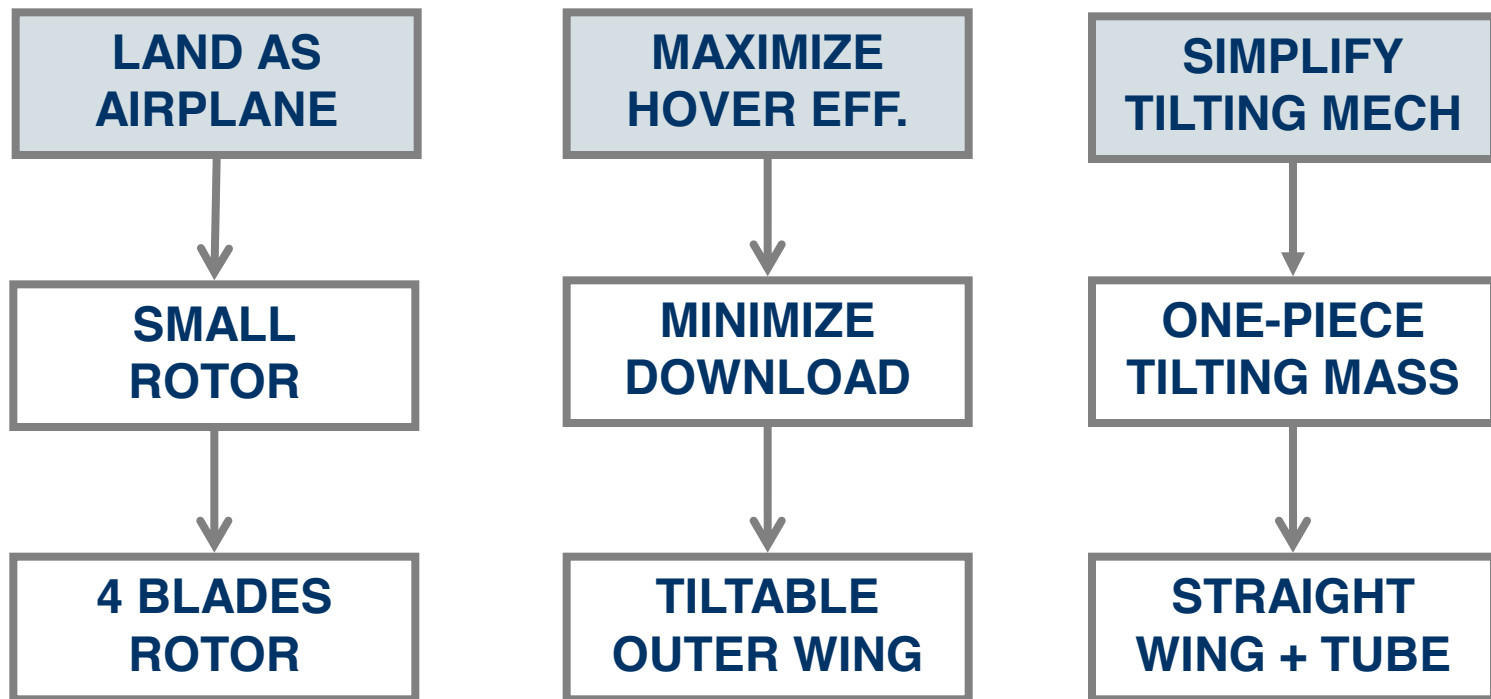


## The next Challenges

**Need to further improve tiltrotor capabilities and efficiency**

**Possibility to exploit new concepts and improved technologies**

**Opportunity for Europe to fill technology gap**



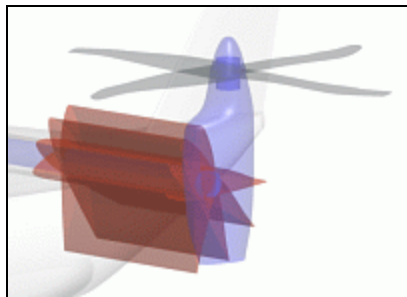
# The ERICA Concept

**4-blades  
advanced rotor**

<b>MTOW</b>	<b>11 tons</b>
<b>PAX</b>	<b>19/22</b>
<b>Vmax</b>	<b>330 Ktas</b>

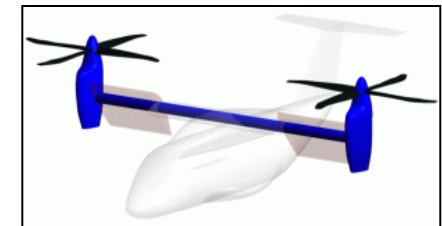
**Independent  
Tiltable wing**

**Pressurized  
cabin**



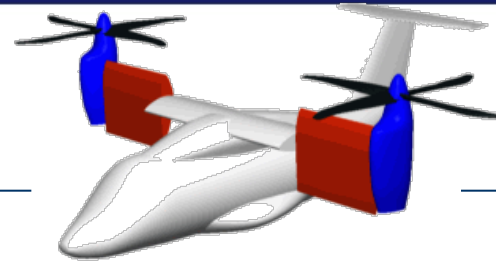
**Fly-by-wire  
controls**

**Continuity of the  
tilting mass**



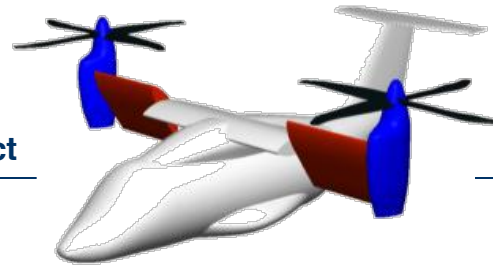
# The ERICA Concept

Minimize the rotor download by tilting the wing 90 deg



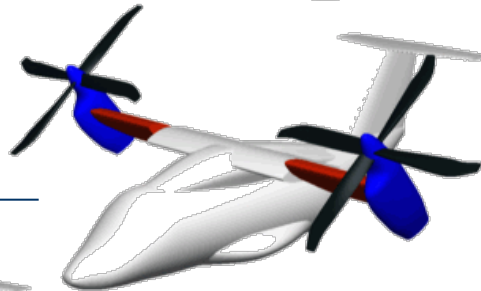
**Hover**

Start tilting the wing to avoid barn door effect

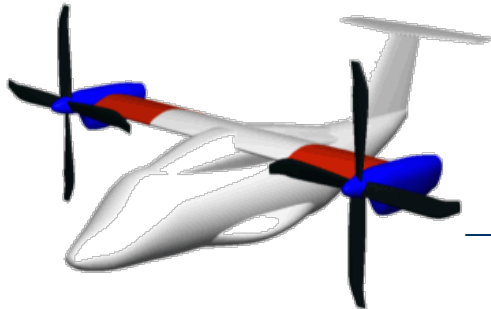


**Low Speed**

Adapt the wing to attain best AoA



**Conversion**

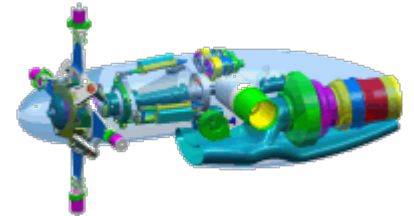


**Cruise**

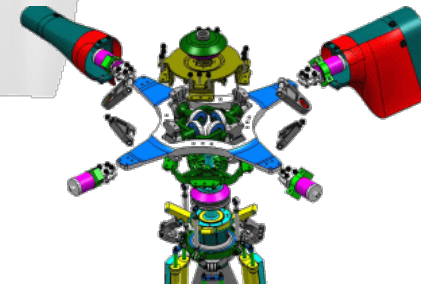


# The ERICA Project

**Erica project: 2000-2005**  
**5 Critical Technology Projects**  
**concerning key aspects of the**  
**ERICA concept**



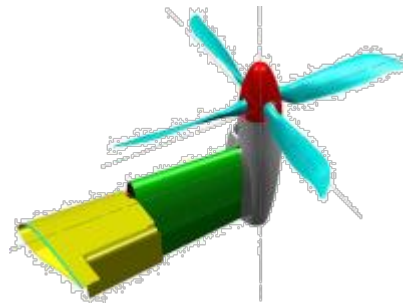
**TRISYD**  
DRIVE SYSTEM &  
TILTING MECHANISMS



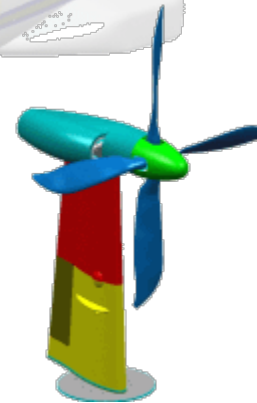
**DART**  
ADVANCED ROTOR  
FOR TILT ROTOR



**ACT\_TILT**  
CONTROL SYSTEM  
FOR TILT ROTOR



**TILTAERO**  
INTERACTIONAL  
AERODYNAMICS



**ADYN**  
DYNAMICS  
AND NOISE

# The NICETRIP Project

**Nicetrip: 2006-2013**

**Integration of the technologies**

**Improvement of the design**

**GENERAL  
ARCHITECTURE**

**FULL SCALE  
TESTING**

**DETAIL DESIGN OF THE  
CRITICAL COMPONENTS**

**ERICA PLATFORM**



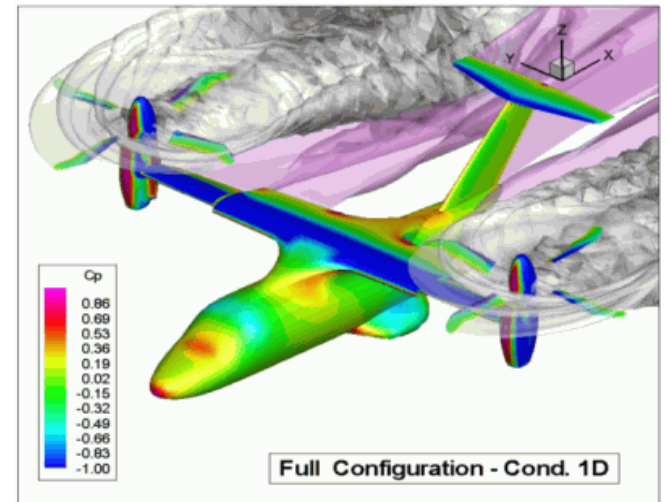
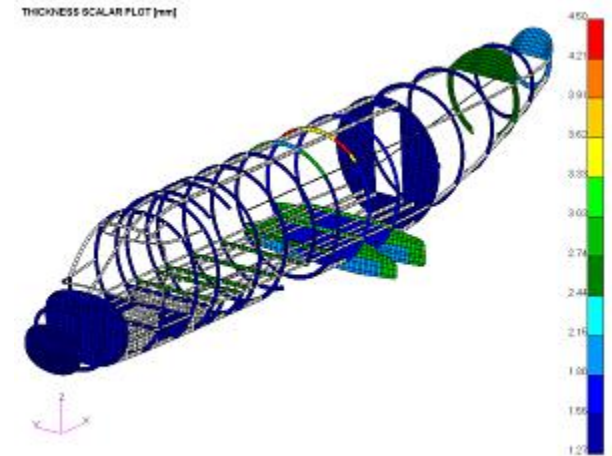
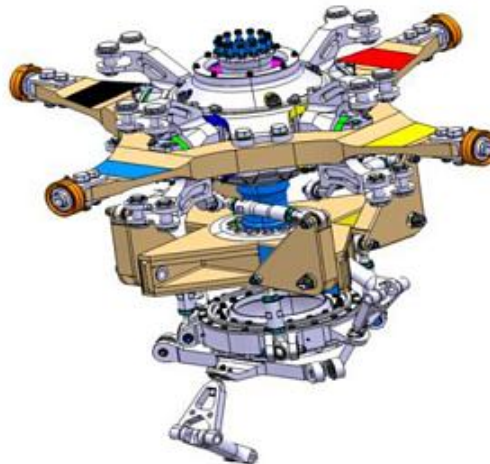
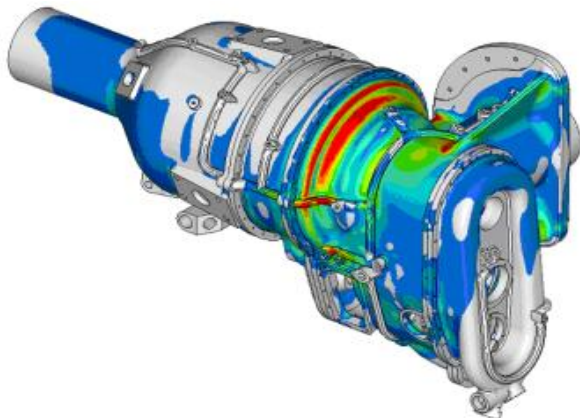
**TILTROTOR IN  
ATM**

**WIND TUNNEL  
SCALED TESTS**

# The NICETRIP Project

## NICETRIP project

Studies and analytical results covering:  
aerodynamics, structures, hub design,  
dynamics, drive system etc.



# The NICETRIP Project

## NICETRIP project

**Experimental testing validating critical aspects**



**Whirl tower full scale test**



**Drive system functional test**



**Air intake model test**



**1:5 Powered model wind tunnel test**



**Force model wind tunnel test**



**Real time simulation**

## The New Generation Tiltrotor - Cleansky II project

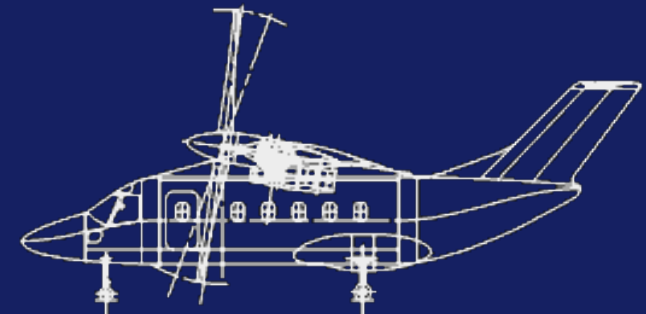


- **Exploiting the ERICA design**
  - **Starting tiltrotor family concept**
  - **Demo aircraft by 2020**
  - **Product after few years**
- 
- **Development lead by AgustaWestland partly under the CSKY2 JTI umbrella**
  - **AgustaWestland coordinator of a team of OEM / suppliers / research institutions in Europe**
  - **Drivers: design to weight/cost, green contents, low noise, new materials and technologies**



# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation Tiltrotor

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# The AgustaWestland Path to the New Generation Tiltrotor

- **Helicopter is unbeatable for hover and low speed but has limitations with speed, altitude and range**
- **Today AgustaWestland is pursuing two ways to cover market needs**
- **The advanced helicopter, represented by the first AgustaWestland product “family” (AW169 – AW139 – AW189)**
- **The Tiltrotor: the AW609, nearing certification, and the ERICA/NICETRIP tiltrotor projects, paving the way for the next tiltrotor generation**



# Thanks for your attention

## Questions?

**Technological Challenges for the Future of Rotary Wing**

**The AgustaWestland Path  
to the New Generation Tiltrotor**

**R. Bianco-Mengotti**

**AgustaWestland  
Head of Flight Mechanics**