



Press Release

12 April 2017

AIRMED World Congress postponed

Significant financial risks for EHAC cause decision to postpone

Significant financial risks in the colocation with Helitech International exhibition are the reason for the unanimous decision by the EHAC Board to postpone the AIRMED World Congress. The recent information by Helitech owner and organiser Reed Exhibitions to offer a potentially similar education and conference programme for free lead to a more than competitive situation rather than a cooperation between Helitech and AIRMED. A potential decrease in AIRMED participants resulting from a complimentary and likely competitive Helitech conference programme strongly endangers the necessary funds from the delegate fees to cover the expenses of the AIRMED World Congress..

Also the European Helicopter Association (EHA) and major industry partners have strongly supported the colocation of and the cooperation between the two events. Together with them, it will be evaluated if and how a colocation would still be beneficial for both organizations in the future. The non-profit approach of AIRMED seems difficult to be harmonized with the Helitech International's commercial orientation.

EHAC regrets that for 2017 no sustainable option is available under the given circumstances. Many thanks go to all experts who have already worked in numerous hours and meetings on the programme. All the ideas of the working groups will be kept as valuable inputs for the planning of the next event. Thanks go also to our congress experts from Happening Events for their dedicated and highly professional support in all organisational matters.

Last but not least, EHAC – as a member of the EHA – intends to strongly support the activities of the EHA, and wishes EHA and all delegates an interesting and successful Helitech International event in London.

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About EHAC

EHAC is a charitable European non-profit organisation. The association refines and promotes HEMS and Air Ambulance services independently in Europe and

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maintains links to European regulatory bodies and international professional organisations. EHAC represents major HEMS and fixed wing air ambulance operators in Europe with a total fleet of more than 240 dedicated HEMS helicopters and 22 dedicated fixed-wing aircrafts in 18 countries. Associated members from the relevant industries support the pan-European idea of uniting aeromedical services for the benefit of all involved parties, but primarily of the patients. EHAC is an affiliated member of the European Helicopter Association (EHA) and supports the mutually shared and coordinated HEMS-related activities in line with the notion to strengthen the European rotorcraft industry, flight and patient safety and to reduce bureaucracy and overregulation.

For further questions please do not hesitate to contact the EHAC Office at media@ehac.eu.