

Schiebel Wins Norway's Tender for UAS Deployment in the Arctic



Schiebel's Camposter S-100 will start tests with the Norwegian Coast Guard in fall 2019. Schiebel

VIENNA,

Austria – Norway's Andøya Test Center selected Schiebel's market-leading Camcopter

S-100 vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) unmanned air system (UAS) for

extensive search-and-rescue trials as part of the Arctic 2030 project, the

company said in a May 2 release.

In a typical

configuration, the Camcopter S-100 operates six hours continuously and is able

to simultaneously carry multiple payloads, offering significant payload

flexibility to the user. Therefore, the S-100's missions deliver aerial views

that reach considerably farther than manned helicopters.

The S-100

also offers a number of key advantages for naval operations in the Arctic. As a

VTOL platform, the Camcopter does not require any additional start or recovery

equipment and its minimal footprint is perfect for offshore patrol vessels with

small deck sizes. The S-100 also distinguishes itself through its ability to

perform in the harshest weather conditions, flying at

temperatures down to
-40°C. This has been proven in a series of intensive trials,
such as the
Canadian icebreaker operations. In this particular case, the
Camcopter S-100
was deployed 60 nautical miles north of Fogo Island, offshore
Canada, providing
a wide-view image of the ice structure as well as identifying
the boundaries
between flat and rough ice.

The goal of
the Andøy Municipality project is a demonstration of VTOL UAS
use in the Arctic
region in an effort to increase maritime safety. For this
purpose, the Camcopter
S-100 will be equipped with an electro-optical/infrared camera
gimbal, an
Overwatch Imaging PT-8 Oceanwatch payload, an automatic
identification system
receiver and a maritime broadband radio by Radionor. Such a
combination of
payloads is intended to strengthen emergency preparedness in
the region and
provide search and rescue mission support.

Tests are
scheduled to commence in the fall of 2019 with the UAS being
deployed from
Norwegian Coast Guard vessels in Andfjorden, Northern Norway.
More operations
are planned in Spitsbergen in the spring of 2020.

“This is
clearly an important milestone in the project,” said Gunnar
Jan Olsen, general manager
of the Andøya Test Center. “We have already gained some
experience with the

Schiebel Camcopter S-100 UAS during an impressive demonstration in 2017. We believe that these current, more extensive S-100 trials will demonstrate that maritime safety in the Arctic can effectively be increased with the help of VTOL UAS.”