



## Media Release

**Date:** November 11, 2004  
**Subject:** Kitchener Aero Special Missions Expertise Applied to Second CTV ENG Helicopter Over Twelve Month Period.

### For Immediate Publication

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**Kitchener, Ontario, CANADA** – Over their 26 years in business Kitchener Aero (KAAV) has gained an enviable reputation for their *Special Missions* modification programs in Aerial Law Enforcement, MedEvac and Air Ambulance, Traffic Patrol, Forestry and Electronic News Gathering (ENG).

Over the course of the spring and summer, KAAV were busy with another CTV ENG helicopter project – the second unit they have been asked to develop and put into service over the last 12 months. After full flight-testing was complete, KAAV delivered this latest *Special Missions* project to CTV who will be using the unit in Vancouver.

#### **Background . . .**

CTV have been leaders in the area of Electronic News Gathering (ENG) in Canada. Their first unit quickly proved itself over the skies of the Greater Toronto area and as the need for greater range combined with advances in technology, the decision was made to replace and dramatically update their capability for the Toronto market. That resulted in KAAV being selected last year to provide the design, installation, testing and certification of what then would be their second CTV ENG project. This past spring a third LongRanger unit arrived in the KAAV shops and throughout the summer months became the focus of a KAAV/CTV ENG design/build. This latest unit was destined for the Vancouver market and although very similar to the Toronto project from last year, in fact incorporated once again some very unique and specific technical aspects required to service the west coast TV market and operational conditions.

#### **Technical Data of Project . . .**

According to Scott Gibson, CTV's Project Manager on this and the previous project: "It is much easier the second time with a project like this if you use the same group who handled the first one. We were able to save lots of money and time on the similar elements like the aft compartment, the avionics rack and the cockpit avionics plus some particularly tricky things like the tail rotor camera. Working with KAAV is a piece of cake - these guys know just what we want."

There was no STC development work in this version of the CTV ENG machine however as noted before, there were some new technology and equipment applications that differ for various reasons from the last unit. A good example is the distinctive and massive camera mounted on the nose of the helicopter. The second CTV ship features a FLIR Ultra Media 3 system up front - and

based upon the test results at Kitchener, the folks in Vancouver are now getting some great aerial TV coverage of news events as they happen.

In addition to the FLIR system, CTV Two (as it became known around KAAV) also uses a very different Microwave (MW) relay system. Whereas most MW ops require site-to-site transmission - and a clear line of site at that - the new system on this machine has been designed to bounce off buildings and can use one of three repeater and reception points that have been installed around greater Vancouver. This system will also beam MPEG images in a digital format to the station, whereas the other system in Toronto is analog based.

The avionics package installed included NAT AMS 43 Audio Panel, Dual Garmin AT SL-40 Comms, Garmin GTX 327 Transponder, Bendix/King KMD 150 GPS/Moving Map, TRA 3000 Radar Altimeter System, and Ryan TCAD 9900BX Traffic Awareness System. Whelen Strobe Lights and a PulseLight 3060 System were also installed for enhanced operational safety. A NAT NPX 138N was installed as Talon Helicopters' (the firm operating the rotorcraft for CTV) company FM radio. The ENG package was similar to the first LongRanger, notwithstanding the change to the FLIR Camera System and the Digital Microwave System as opposed to analog in the first ship. Common elements include the KAAV TailCam, NAT AA97-CTV Custom Audio System, Sony video editing suite, and the normal plethora of cameras, video monitors, communications gear, and so forth - all of which is required to get the ENG mission accomplished the CTV way.

In speaking about this latest project, Barry Aylward, President of KAAV stated: "Getting to work on a project like the CTV ENG helicopter is just about every avionics shops' dream - and the challenges and technical expertise required for the design and installation work limit just how many shops are even qualified for this sort of work. We are very proud of the fact that CTV has turned to the Special Missions Expertise of KAAV. Each and every project that comes in and out of our shop brings pride of ownership and success to the team. Repeat customers like CTV speak volumes for the capability and craftsmanship of our team and I am very proud of them."

For additional information call Barry Aylward at Kitchener Aero.

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For more detailed or alternative photos, please contact Robert Seaman at (416) 806-2966.

**Photo Details:** 1. CTV One and Two in formation on delivery day. 2. CTV Two – ready for acceptance by CTV and Talon Helicopters of Vancouver. 3. The nose mounted FLIR system. 4. The front office – station and camera monitors in addition to new avionics were added. 5. The avionics suite during pre-delivery testing. 6. The aft producer station provides back-up systems, direct feed to studio and editing capability. 7. The talent position features a fixed camera and station monitor.

