

For Immediate Release:

Operation Helo and Robinson Helicopter Company Forge Strategic Partnership to Enhance Disaster Relief Efforts



Dallas, TX – March 11, 2025 – Operation Helo, a leading humanitarian organization specializing in rapid-response helicopter missions, is proud to announce a strategic partnership with Robinson Helicopter Company, the world's largest manufacturer of civil helicopters. This collaboration aims to revolutionize disaster relief operations by integrating advanced helicopter technology with dedicated humanitarian efforts.

Empowering Disaster Response

Robinson Helicopter Company has committed to encouraging all new helicopter purchasers to enroll in Operation Helo's innovative app. This platform not only connects pilots with real-time mission opportunities but also facilitates the collection of critical flight data, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of relief efforts.

In addition, Operation Helo is launching an elite, first-of-its-kind disaster response aviation training program—setting a new global standard for humanitarian flight operations. Designed to prepare pilots for the harshest, most unpredictable environments, this program will provide intense, real-world scenario training for missions in floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires.

At the core of this initiative is a dedicated focus on Robinson Helicopters, while also incorporating training across a range of aircraft to ensure pilots are equipped with the skills and versatility needed for diverse disaster response operations. The program will feature biannual flight reviews, advanced aerial rescue techniques, precision supply drops, and critical communication deployment strategies, ensuring that every pilot in our network is battle-tested, mission-ready, and able to operate safely in life-or-death situations.

This isn't just another training program—it's the future of disaster response aviation, designed to push the boundaries of what's possible in humanitarian relief. Operation Helo is ensuring that when the next disaster strikes, the most highly trained pilots in the world will be in the sky, delivering life-saving aid when every second counts.

David Smith, President and CEO of Robinson Helicopter Company, expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership:

"At Robinson Helicopter, we understand the unique power of helicopters to reach the most vulnerable in the aftermath of a disaster. They can access areas no other vehicle can, delivering critical aid without further disrupting the environment. It's this capability—supporting those in need—that drives our commitment to building the safest, most reliable helicopters in the world. We're proud to support Matt and Operation Helo in their mission to leverage this unique capability for good."

A Visionary Collaboration

Matt McSwain, Co-founder of Operation Helo, shared his perspective on the alliance:

"This partnership with Robinson Helicopter Company marks a significant milestone in our mission to provide swift and effective disaster relief. By integrating Robinson's state-of-the-art helicopters with our dedicated network of pilots and volunteers, we're poised to reach even more communities in need, ensuring that no one is left behind during times of crisis."

About Operation Helo

Operation Helo is a humanitarian organization dedicated to delivering rapid-response aid to communities affected by disasters. During Hurricane Helene, Operation Helo led one of the largest civilian-led disaster response efforts, successfully executing over 4,000 missions to deliver millions of pounds of life-saving supplies to the hardest-hit areas. Our teams rescued more than 450 people trapped by floodwaters and destruction, while also deploying 523 Starlink systems to restore communication in isolated regions. Utilizing a vast network of volunteer pilots, veterans, and first responders, Operation Helo continues to conduct critical missions, including evacuations, supply deliveries, and communication restorations, embodying the spirit of hope and resilience.

About Robinson Helicopter Company

Robinson Helicopter Company is the world's leading manufacturer of civil helicopters, renowned for producing reliable, high-quality aircraft. With a commitment to safety and innovation, Robinson Helicopter Company continues to set industry standards, empowering pilots worldwide.

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