

The unit's tasks can be compiled into the following sets:

- ❖ Operational police tasks,
- ❖ Humanitarian tasks and Search and Rescue tasks,
- ❖ The use of the helicopter for the purposes of other government institutions,
- ❖ Other tasks within the framework of police activities,
- ❖ Training.

Each year, the unit completes approximately 2000 flight hours with helicopters, most of them in performing police tasks and tasks within the system of safety and rescue.

The mission and the vision

The purpose of the unit is to efficiently perform police tasks. The highly-trained professional unit offers safe, reliable and efficient air support to Slovenian police units in their tasks of protecting life and property. In addition to that, the unit also helps other ministries and institutions in Slovenia.

In accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Essential Development Programme of the Slovenian Police Helicopter Unit until 2012, the unit will increase the number of employed pilots and flight technicians, and train them for day and night police tasks.

Other plans include reorganisation according to the Schengen Agreement requirements, e.g. temporary assignment of helicopters and crews to other airfields (Cerklje, Portorož or Maribor). The surveillance and protection of the Schengen border would thus be streamlined as the helicopter would be located merely a few minutes from its operational zone.

Furthermore, the fleet will also be modernised in accordance with the Essential Development Programme. The unit in its final form will consist of two medium size transport helicopters (the current AB-212 and AB-412) and three smaller surveillance and patrol helicopters, including the two so-called "Schengen helicopters", Agusta A 109E and Eurocopter EC 135.



40 years



SLOVENIAN POLICE HELICOPTER UNIT

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Issued by: Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia, Police
Prepared by: General Police Directorate, Uniformed Police Directorate, Slovenian Police Helicopter Unit and Service of the Director General of the Police, Public Relations Division
Language editing: Translation and Language Editing Service
Photographs: Slovenian Police Helicopter Unit, Special Unit and Public Relations Division
Designed by: Administration, Documentation and Graphics Service
Printed by: DZS, d. d.
Number of copies: 500
Ljubljana 2007



SLOVENIAN POLICE HELICOPTER UNIT



A Brief History

1967 ... The formation of the unit and the first helicopter

The formation of the air support unit with the first helicopter used by the Slovenian police. This was the Agusta Bell AB 47/ J-2A three-seater with a classical piston engine. Due to the limited performance of the helicopter, its tasks were initially limited to traffic control and patrols. Nevertheless, the helicopter took part in a mountain rescue mission in 1968. The helicopter was withdrawn from service in the spring of 1984. Today, it is stored in the facilities of the Slovenian Police Helicopter Unit.



1972 ... The second helicopter

The purchase of the Agusta Bell AB-206 Jet Ranger helicopter. The new helicopter had better performance characteristics than the old one, enabling expanded activities of the unit. In the years that followed, the unit received five more helicopters of the same type, of which two are still in use today, mainly for less demanding police tasks and for basic training of helicopter crews. Additionally, this helicopter can be equipped with the LEO 400 video surveillance system.

1978 ... The "Medico" helicopter

The purchase of the Agusta A-109A helicopter. In 1986, this helicopter was re-equipped to be used for the transport of ill and injured persons. At the time, the helicopter was a state-of-the-art flying ambulance, equipped with a portable incubator and a life-support system. The helicopter was used until 1998, when it was sold.

The biggest helicopter at the time. Because of its size, it had and still has an important role in the transport of cargo and personnel to inaccessible areas. In 2006, the helicopter was completely upgraded and is currently used in regular tasks performed by the unit.

1979 ... Agusta Bell AB-212

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1980 ... The hangar

1980 is an important year in the history of the unit as

this was the year it moved into a modern hangar at the Ljubljana airport.



1986 ... Agusta Bell AB-412

The purchase of a multi-purpose Agusta Bell AB-412 helicopter, similar to the AB-212 in appearance and performance.



2005 ... Agusta A-109 Power

The purchase of a new helicopter, mainly for the purposes of state border control and for search and rescue tasks. Its equipment supports flying in difficult meteorological conditions as well as night flight with the use of night-vision goggles.

2007 ... Eurocopter EC-135

The signing of a contract for the purchase of the new Eurocopter EC-135 for surveillance of the Schengen border. The helicopter will be delivered in September 2007.

Unit organisation

- ❖ Pilots Section
- ❖ Technical Section

Employees

- ❖ Head of Slovenian Police Helicopter Unit (Vojko Robnik)
- ❖ Head of Pilots Section (Damjan Bregar)

- ❖ Head of Technical Section (Božidar Nahtigal)
- ❖ Pilots (18 employees)
- ❖ Flight technicians (10 employees)
- ❖ Other staff (2 employees)

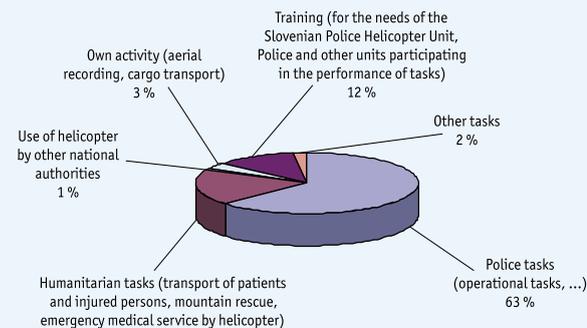
The Fleet

- ❖ Agusta Bell AB-206 Jet Ranger (2 helicopters)
- ❖ Agusta Bell AB-212 (1 helicopter)
- ❖ Agusta Bell AB-412 (1 helicopter)
- ❖ Agusta A-109E Power (1 helicopter)

Tasks

The practice so far has shown a wide-ranging utility of the police helicopter in the tasks performed by the police, rescue units and other organisations. The manoeuvrability of the helicopter makes for a quick and direct approach to the task location, surveillance of an area, as well as transport of personnel and equipment.

Helicopters have become indispensable in traffic control and surveillance, in pursuits of criminal offenders, in surveillance of the state border, particularly the Schengen border, in rescue



operations after natural disasters and mountain accidents, in transporting infants in incubators and in transporting the seriously ill and the severely injured, in locating natural fires and in fire-fighting, in construction of cableways and mountain lodges, as well as in installation of transmitters and overhead power lines.