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PRESS RELEASE
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Pistons Take 83% of Civil Helicopter Market

Torrance, CA — According to the latest figures just released by the Aerospace Industries Association, piston-powered helicopters are outselling turbines nearly five to one. Of the 148 civil helicopters delivered during the first three months of 2001, 123 of them were powered by reciprocating engines – and 112 of those were built by Robinson Helicopter Company. The latest figures are at <http://www.aia-aerospace.org/departments/stats/a1stat/helo1q01.pdf> on AIA's website.

Robinson continues to increase its market share, outselling all of the other North American rotorcraft manufacturers combined. The company's R22 and R44 helicopters represented an astounding 76% of civil helicopter sales during the first quarter of 2001. "We knew our sales were holding strong," reports Frank Robinson, president of Robinson Helicopter, "but these figures took us by surprise just the same. We didn't realize our market share had grown to this extent."

Robinson's sales included 68 four-seat R44s and 44 two-seat R22s, up more than 25% over the company's 88 new aircraft shipments during the same period last year. The company currently maintains a six- to eight-week backlog of orders for both models.

Some industry analysts have recently recognized the unforeseen strength of the piston segment of the civil helicopter market, revising forecasts to take Robinson's burgeoning sales into account. These figures extend a consistent trend over the past several years toward an expansion in piston helicopter sales and a decrease in the sale of turbine-powered helicopters.

Robinson is the world's leading manufacturer of civil helicopters and builds the two-seat Model R22 and the four-seat Model R44. Robinson helicopters are used throughout the world for a variety of private, business and commercial operations. For more information about Robinson, visit us on-line at www.robinsonheli.com.

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