UMS Skeldar’s V-200 Completes Successful Flight Trials in Finland



The Skeldar V-200, completing flight demonstrations aboard Finland’s OPV Turva. *UMS SKELDAR*

BASEL, Switzerland – UMS Skeldar’s V-200 unmanned helicopter has successfully completed five-day long surveillance flight trial demonstrations aboard the OPV Turva as part of the Valvonta2 project led by the Finnish Border Guard and funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, the company said in a release.

The project aims to achieve an understanding of how authorities could use unmanned aircraft for diverse and demanding operations at sea both now and in future scenarios.

As part of the trials, UMS Skeldar’s V-200 completed multiple operational flights and successfully demonstrated a range of features including automatic takeoff and landing (ATOL) capabilities, vessel identification at different ranges and altitudes, search and rescue during day and night, Automatic Identification System and transponder demonstrations. To perform the missions, the Skeldar V-200 was simultaneously carrying a multiple sensor suite of AIS, Wescam MX-8 electro-optical and infrared sensors as well as the high-capacity Leonardo Pico-SAR synthetic aperture radar.

“These flight trials demonstrate that the Skeldar V-200 platform is the perfect fully-developed ATOL choice for maritime missions,” said Stefan Hyltberg, program manager for UMS Skeldar. “Its adeptness at operating from a range of naval ships using market-leading heavy-fuel Hirth Engines in combination with its multiple sensor carrying capability give

the Skeldar V-200 a real advantage over its competitors. Our team is proud to have its work recognized by the Finnish Border Guard.”

The platform of choice for maritime-based missions worldwide, the V-200 has been previously selected by the German, Royal Canadian, Belgian and Royal Netherlands navies, providing embedded “eye in the sky” intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities to enhance its capacity to perform primary and secondary missions.

“As we have proven with these trials, the Skeldar V-200 continues to provide best-in-class capabilities for customers,” Hyltberg said “Continuous development of our Skeldar V-200 and V-150 aims to not only validate the platforms’ capabilities but also analyze customer requirements with a view to increasing the service suite UMS Skeldar provides.”