

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Broomfield, 23 November 2009

**U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT SELECTS PILATUS PC-12**

**Pilatus Business Aircraft, Ltd. announced today that the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has taken delivery of its first Pilatus PC-12. The aircraft will be put to multirole use performing cargo, passenger, smokejumper, air tactical, aerial supervision and lead plane fire-fighting missions.**

BLM said it selected the PC-12 because it is the only aircraft that meets all the mission requirements, and will provide it with significantly enhanced capability at the least annual program cost. BLM estimates that ownership of this aircraft will reduce the direct cost to the government by \$1.5 million per year as opposed to contracting for a similar aircraft.

The BLM's multirole PC-12 features the unique Utility Door option. Capable of being opened in flight, this inward-opening door is mounted within the PC-12's standard cargo door and enables the aircraft to depressurize and perform specialist parachute work or drop supplies or relief materials, and later re-pressurize and return to high speed cruise at altitude.

Leonard Luke, Vice President of Homeland Security and Government Business at Pilatus added, "The PC-12 has become increasingly popular as a cost effective multirole solution for government agencies. Strong performance, fuel efficiency, and a rugged airframe suitable for military missions make it the ideal special mission platform for today's government and law enforcement agencies."

The BLM is responsible for the management and conservation of resources on 256 million surface acres in the United States. These public lands make up about 13 percent of the total land surface of the country and more than 40 percent of all land managed by the U.S. government. The PC-12 will be based at the BLM's Fire and Aviation Directorate and National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho.

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Photos are available to download, free of charge, at <http://images.pilatus-aircraft.com>. This press release can also be found at <http://media.pilatus-aircraft.com>. If you do not wish to receive our press releases in the future, use the same link mentioned above and de-register by using the form at the bottom of the page.

[www.pilatus-aircraft.com](http://www.pilatus-aircraft.com)

Pilatus Aircraft Ltd was founded in 1939 and is currently world market leader in the manufacture and sale of single-engine turboprop aircraft. It is the only Swiss company that develops and produces private and training aircraft. Pilatus, which is headquartered in Stans, Switzerland, is licensed to maintain and perform upgrades on a variety of aircraft. This service is complemented by three independent subsidiaries in Altenrhein (Switzerland), in Broomfield (Colorado, USA) and Adelaide (Australia). With a workforce of over 1100 at its head office, Pilatus is one of the biggest employers in Central Switzerland. Pilatus additionally provides training for almost 100 apprentices in nine different professions – job training for young people has always been a very high priority at Pilatus.