

Polish made Black Hawk rolled off production line

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The first S-70i Black-Hawk helicopter manufactured by PZL Mielec, Polish aerospace manufacturer, was presented yesterday.

Mielec plant was purchased by Sikorsky Aircraft, a major US defence contractor, three years ago for PLN 250 million and since then the company has invested tens of millions of dollars in the plant and created 500 new jobs, Wyborcza.biz reports. 'We finally have a product which can be exported' Janusz Zakręcki, PZL Mielec CEO told 'Gazeta Wyborcza'.

The aircraft will fly to Florida this month, where it will be tested. PZL Mielec will produce two more Black Hawks this year. The company plans to produce 20 aircraft annually from 2012.

Black Hawk is a medium-lift utility helicopter which can carry up to 20 passengers.