LEONARDO AW609 PROGRAMME MOVES FORWARD AND PREPARES FOR ICING TRIALS

News / Business aviation, Manufacturer



- **Several ground and flight tests already performed in Philadelphia by the third AW609 prototype**
- **Aircraft remains on schedule to begin icing trials this winter**
- **FAA certification is on track for 2018**?

The AW609 TiltRotor programme is expected to start icing trials soon following recent ground and flight testing activities. These advances have been made in support of FAA certification, which remains on track for 2018.

The third prototype, based at Leonardo's facility in Philadelphia, performed several weeks of unrestrained ground testing and, more recently, flight trials that allowed avionics and all systems to be fully tested. During initial flights, the aircraft performed basic hovering and maneuvering and patterns around the airport, concluding with hover landing. Additional flights up to altitudes of 4000 feet with short takeoff and landing (STOL) are planned shortly.

The aircraft will undergo icing trials in Marquette, Michigan, through the winter. The tests will ensure the **AW609**can fly in known icing conditions and reach operational standards not currently available in any other commercial aircraft.

The fourth **AW609** prototype is now located within the main production area of the Philadelphia facility's assembly line to ensure a smooth transition to the first production build aircraft, also

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited.

planned for 2018.

AW609 programme moves forward preparing for icing trials

Image not found or type unknown

09 FEBRUARY 2017

ARTICLE LINK:
https://ut.50skyshades.com/news/manufacturer/leonardo-aw609-programme-moves-forward-and-prepares-for-icing-trials

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited.