

AVINCIS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

# TORQUE

## STRONGER TOGETHER

AVINCIS WELCOMES  
KN HELICOPTERS  
TO THE FLEET

### TEAMING UP

De Havilland  
joint initiatives

### SAFETY FOCUS

Driving improvements  
day by day

### WORLD FIRST

AW169 reaches  
5,000 flying hours





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*Every mission matters*

# CONTENTS

TORQUE | JANUARY 2026 |

## NEWS

- 5 Group CEO's message
- 6 A new collaboration with De Havilland
- 7 A special day in Tromsø  
European Rotors 2025
- 8 11 Fishermen rescued in Spain
- 9 Insurance partners visit Avincis  
2024 chamber of commerce award

## FEATURE

- 10 Avincis acquires KN Helicopters

## SAFETY

- 14 Building a stronger more resilient Avincis

## OPERATIONS

- 17 Supply chain strategy 2026
- 18 Enhancing safety in high-risk missions
- 19 Avincis' first apprentices qualify  
Preparing crews for high pressure missions

## COMMERCIAL

- 20 Catalonia's New SAR and Firefighting
- 21 Crans-Montana rescue operations  
New HEMS operations in Greece

## FLEET

- 22 Norway's Life-Saving Missions
- 23 Delivering ICU-Level Care Across Norway
- 24 Global First: 5,000 Flight Hours on the AW169

## TRAINING

- 26 Avincis' Simulator Network Strengthens Mission

## REGIONAL FOCUS

- 28 Avincis' Vital Nordics Operations

## FIREFIGHTING

- 30 Italian Canadairs in Greece
- 31 Crossing Continents to Combat Fires
- 32 CL-415 Summer Deployment in Naples
- 33 Another Intense Firefighting Season for Avincis
- 34 Europe's First Female Canadair Captain
- 36 Teamwork Behind a Critical Extraction

## HEMS

- 38 Hope Delivered from Seville's Skies
- 39 Mountain Rescue in Veneto

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## Welcoming the New Year: A Message from the Group CEO

As we look forward to another exciting year at Avincis, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the extraordinary people who make our mission possible. Every page of this edition of Torque is a testament to the compassion, teamwork, and unwavering commitment that define our global emergency services family.

This year, our teams have once again demonstrated what it means to be a shining example in our industry. From the frontline crews who respond at a moment's notice, to the dedicated support personnel who ensure every mission is safe and successful, Avincis is united by a singular purpose: to save lives and protect communities, wherever and whenever we are needed.

Our work is not measured only in flight hours or missions completed, but in the lives touched and hope delivered. I am especially moved by the story of our crew in Valencia, who saved a young child in their hour of greatest need, a moment that reminds us all of the profound impact our work has on families and communities.

Equally, our support for the victims of the Crans-Montana disaster in Switzerland stands as a powerful example of international collaboration and the vital role we play in times of crisis.

These achievements are only possible because of the compassion and teamwork that run through every part of Avincis. We could not fly a single mission without the expertise and dedication of our engineers, technicians, logistics teams, and all those who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Their professionalism and care are the foundation upon which our success is built.

Looking ahead, our vision remains clear: to set the standard for excellence in emergency aviation, to innovate boldly, and to nurture a culture where every individual is valued and empowered. We will continue to invest in our people, our technology, and our partnerships, always striving to deliver the very best for those who depend on us.

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***“Our work is not measured only in flight hours or missions completed, but in the lives touched and hope delivered.”***

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Thank you to every member of the Avincis family, and to our partners and clients, for your trust and support. Together, we are making a difference, one mission, one life, one community at a time.

Every Mission Matters.

**John Boag**  
Group CEO, Avincis



## Avincis and De Havilland Canada Launch New Collaboration for CL Aircraft Operators

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**A**vincis and De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited have announced a series of joint initiatives designed to enhance support for the global CL-215, CL-215T and CL-415 community.

As part of the agreement, Avincis will transfer ownership of its ADS-B and FMS supplemental type certificates for the CL fleet to De Havilland Canada. These will be added to De Havilland Canada's spare parts catalogue, improving access to essential system solutions for all CL aircraft operators worldwide. Future Avincis-led modification opportunities for CL aircraft will also be developed in close cooperation with De Havilland Canada.

John Boag, Avincis Group CEO, highlighted the value of the partnership:

*"We're proud to bring more than two decades of operational and engineering experience with the world's largest CL-415 fleet to this collaboration. Working alongside De Havilland Canada allows us to deliver even greater capability and high-quality solutions to CL operators globally."*

Brian Chafe, CEO of De Havilland Canada, added: "These initiatives underscore the power of collaboration and our shared commitment to supporting CL aircraft operators. We're pleased to strengthen our ties with Avincis, one of the leading operators of our aerial firefighting aircraft."

This partnership aligns with De Havilland Canada's ongoing investment in the CL platform and leverages Avincis' extensive expertise in maintenance, design and engineering, as well as its strong MRO presence across Europe. Together, both organisations aim to ensure CL aircraft continue to perform safely, efficiently and effectively for firefighting and emergency response missions around the world.

***"Working alongside De Havilland Canada allows us to deliver even greater capability and high-quality solutions to CL operators globally."***

## A special day with the association for children with heart disease in Tromsø

Avincis Norway welcomed families from the Association for Children with Heart Disease to our Tromsø hangar for a memorable behind-the-scenes visit. Children, many of whom had previously flown with us as patients, explored our aircraft, met our crews, and proudly became “pilots for a day.”

Among them was Håkon, who was flown home by air ambulance as a newborn after a heart defect was discovered during pregnancy. Now older, he was one of the first to jump into the cockpit — a moment that highlighted the real impact of our lifesaving work.

**“We always felt in safe hands”**, his father shared. For many families, this was their first time seeing an ambulance plane since early surgeries, making the day especially meaningful. Each child received an honorary pilot card to mark the occasion. Reflecting on the event, Ronny Repvik,

General Manager for Avincis Norway, said: “Days like this remind us that our work is about more than flights — it’s about people, care, and making a difference.”

Thank you to the families who joined us, the Association for Children with Heart Disease, and our dedicated teams who made this special day possible.



## Avincis at European Rotors 2025

Avincis proudly participated in European Rotors 2025 in Cologne, Europe’s leading event for the rotorcraft and vertical aviation community. Across three days, our team welcomed visitors to the Avincis stand, sharing insights into our emergency aerial services while engaging with potential customers and suppliers to explore new opportunities. The ‘Career Day’ was another highlight, allowing us to connect with talented professionals passionate about shaping the future of aviation. We also appreciate our colleagues who spoke at the event, showcasing Avincis’ expertise and commitment to safety and innovation.

**Thank you to everyone who visited us in Cologne. We look forward to returning to European Rotors 2026 in Lyon.**

## 11 fishermen rescued during night-time mission in Spain

In the early hours of a September morning, Avincis' crew based at La Coruña Airport, Spain were urgently called out by Maritime Rescue to assist a fishing vessel that was sinking around 25 nautical miles from base.

When they arrived, the team found a life raft drifting in the dark Atlantic, carrying all 11 fishermen who had managed to escape their vessel. Rescuer Hugo Dopazo was lowered into the rough waters, climbed aboard the life raft, and took charge of the operation, organising the fishermen in pairs for safe hoisting into the helicopter. They were airlifted to safety two by two, ensuring a swift and efficient rescue.

Once the final rescue was complete, the entire fishing crew and Avincis team were flown back to base for medical checks — with all confirmed to be in good health. The mission, completed in under 1.5 hours, showcased exceptional teamwork and precision.

The operation was led by Commander Vicente García, supported by Co-pilot Aaron Peteiro, Crane Operator José Luis Valcárcel, and Rescuers Hugo Dopazo and Carlos Cerviño. Each played a vital role:

- **Aaron Peteiro** managed communications, fuel, helicopter parameters and autopilot settings.
- **José Luis Valcárcel** operated the hoist, ensuring each lift was coordinated and stable using the Winch Man Trim autopilot mode.
- **Hugo Dopazo** organised the sailors on the raft to prevent capsizing and assisted them into the helicopter.
- **Carlos Cerviño** secured the rescued crew on board, maintaining balance and safety during the flight.



*From left to right: Rescuer Hugo Dopazo, Hoist Operator José Luis Valcárcel, Rescuer Carlos Cerviño, Pilot Vicente García and Co-Pilot Aaron Peteiro.*

“The biggest challenge was keeping the helicopter steady above a drifting raft in the dark, with the wind and waves constantly shifting it,” said Captain García. “Flying over the sea at night demands total focus and teamwork, but seeing the relief on the fishermen’s faces when we landed made every effort worthwhile.”

The mission not only demonstrated the crew’s skill and discipline but also the value of advanced search-and-rescue technology such as the Winch Man Trim autopilot, TAWS (Terrain Awareness and Warning System), ACAS (Airborne Collision Avoidance System) and digital map system positioning tools — all critical to ensuring safe, efficient operations in challenging conditions.

Reflecting on what drives him, Captain García added:

**“What motivates me most is helping people in danger; combining the thrill of flying with the purpose of saving lives. Seeing teamwork lead to a successful rescue is incredibly rewarding.”**

This operation stands as another powerful example of Avincis’ commitment to saving lives, showcasing the courage, coordination and expertise that define our crews in every mission.

**Strengthening collaboration: insurance partners visit Avincis**

Avincis recently hosted a group of our key insurance partners for a site visit to our Mutxamel base in Alicante, Spain. The visit was led by John Boag, Avincis Group CEO, and supported by a wider delegation from across the company.

The purpose of the visit was to provide our insurers with a clear and comprehensive update on Avincis’ business performance, growth strategy, operational improvements and ongoing safety initiatives.

It also offered an invaluable opportunity for them to gain deeper insight into the essential role they play in supporting the lifesaving operations we deliver for communities across our network.

During the visit, our guests participated in a series of briefings followed by a guided tour of the Mutxamel facilities. Here, they were able to see

first-hand the nature of our emergency missions and the breadth of the technical and maintenance services performed on site.

Visits like this help strengthen our partnerships and reinforce our shared commitment to safety, reliability and service excellence, ensuring we can continue to protect communities and save lives every day.



**Avincis receives Alicante’s 2024 chamber of commerce Award**

Avincis has been honoured with the 2024 Chamber of Commerce of Alicante Award for Business Innovation, recognising the modernisation and operational improvements achieved across the organisation in recent months. The award was



presented at the Chamber’s annual gala, attended by leaders from across the province’s business community.

The Chamber highlighted Avincis’ adoption of new technologies, enhanced emergency response capability and efforts to reduce environmental impact — advancements that reinforce our position as a benchmark in emergency aerial services. Over the past 18 months, we have introduced new aircraft, advanced training programmes and digital tools to strengthen reliability in a highly demanding sector.

Accepting the award, Avincis Group CIO Carlos Guerra noted that the recognition reflects “the daily work of teams operating in complex conditions to protect communities.”

This distinction underscores our continued commitment to innovation, safety and operational excellence in emergency aerial services.

# Avincis Expands into Offshore Wind with Acquisition of KN Helicopters

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*Photo credit: HeliOps*

**A**vincis has taken a major step into the offshore wind sector through the acquisition of Denmark-based KN Helicopters. Since 2016, KN Helicopters has been providing helicopter services to offshore wind farms, supporting major operators including Vattenfall and Siemens. Led by CEO Niels Peter Kjeldahl, who will continue in his role, the company brings deep expertise and operational know-how to Avincis as we expand into new services and regions.

This strategic acquisition strengthens Avincis' footprint in the Nordics, complementing our operations in Norway, Sweden, and Finland, and provides a strong entry point into a rapidly growing renewable energy sector. With Denmark now added to our network, Avincis' operational presence has expanded to 10 countries, marking a significant milestone in our international growth.

KN Helicopters currently operates three Airbus H135s and one Airbus H145, which will complement our existing fleet of more than 60 Airbus helicopters. Their integration into the Avincis family will enable us to leverage our global network, expertise, and capabilities to support offshore wind farm owners with the same level of dedication and professionalism we provide across our emergency aerial services.

The offshore wind sector is experiencing significant growth. Global installed capacity now exceeds 83 GW, supplying renewable electricity to over 73 million households. This expansion represents an important opportunity for Avincis to extend its services into an evolving industry critical to sustainable energy production.

John Boag, Avincis' Group CEO, said: "We are thrilled to welcome the KN Helicopters team to Avincis. Offshore wind energy has an exciting future, and this acquisition demonstrates our commitment to sustainable, long-term growth. We look forward to supporting Denmark's wind farm owners with the same excellence that defines our services worldwide." Niels Peter Kjeldahl, CEO of KN Helicopters, added: "We are very proud to join Avincis. This is a natural and positive step for KN




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***“This acquisition demonstrates our commitment to sustainable, long-term growth.”***

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Helicopters to become an international market leader in offshore wind. We look forward to building a strong future together.”

With this acquisition, Avincis not only strengthens its presence in the Nordics but also enters a fast-developing market that aligns with our long-term strategy of growth and innovation. KN Helicopters' experience, fleet, and culture make it a strong addition to our global network, further enabling us to provide reliable, mission-ready solutions to clients across emergency services and the renewable energy sector.

## Building Excellence in Offshore Helicopter Operations

At the helm of KN Helicopters is Niels Peter Kjeldahl, a highly experienced pilot and leader who will continue overseeing the company's operations as part of the Avincis Group. His extensive background in aviation and renewable energy brings valuable expertise to our shared mission of protecting communities and the environment through safe, efficient aerial operations.

### From pilot to founder: the KN Helicopters' journey

Niels Peter began flying at 19, training first on fixed-wing aircraft before discovering his passion for helicopters. His career has taken him from California to Greenland and on offshore vessels, specialising in sling work, hoisting, IFR transitions and NVG operations. "The most exciting flying is when you use all your skills," he says.



He and co-founder Karin S. Granhøj shared a vision to build a responsive, customer-focused helicopter company. KN Helicopters launched in 2015 and quickly established itself as a trusted operator in the offshore wind sector.

### Stronger together with Avincis

As the business grew, joining Avincis offered the scale and support needed for long-term development. The partnership brings clear synergies — from access to a larger fleet and shared training facilities to expanded career pathways for employees across the group. "We could stay small or become part of something bigger. Avincis gives us room to grow," he explains.

Reflecting on his early impressions of Avincis, he highlights the group's balance of experience and entrepreneurial energy. "Avincis brings together experience, expertise and enthusiasm in a way that feels both established and innovative — a balance which I really like."

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***"The customer is number one.  
And safety isn't just a priority  
— it's our DNA."***

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### Looking ahead

Niels Peter believes the coming years will bring significant opportunity, even as some in the industry still underestimate the value helicopters can offer. "The helicopter has proven its worth in some areas, but it's not yet being used to its full potential."

His priorities remain simple and steadfast: "The customer is number one. And safety isn't just a priority — it's our DNA."



## Industry-first Milestone in Wind Farm Operations

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KN Helicopters has achieved an unprecedented milestone as the only company and helicopter operator in the world that has successfully carried out a full wind farm service set-up using only helicopters.

Traditionally, wind farm operators rely on helicopters exclusively for troubleshooting, particularly when weather conditions are poor and the wave height exceeds the limits for vessel transport. However, KN Helicopters has now proven the full-scale feasibility and success of helicopter-based service operations on a wind farm consisting of 110 wind turbines.

This advantage represents a huge success for wind farm owners, as it brings significant operational advantages. The service process is not only considerably faster than traditional vessel-based methods, but it also saves substantial resources in terms of manpower and logistics. Most importantly, it results in a major reduction of CO2 emissions –

traditional vessel transportation to offshore wind farms emits at least five times more CO2 compared to helicopter operations.

This project marks a first-mover operation for the customer who entrusted us with this innovative task. The outcome demonstrates immense future potential for similar projects across the green energy sector, reinforcing the path towards more efficient, sustainable, and environmentally responsible wind farm maintenance worldwide.

# Safety at the Core: Building a Stronger More Resilient Avincis

At Avincis, safety is the foundation for everything we do. From life-saving missions in the skies to routine maintenance operations, every decision we make begins with one shared commitment: to keep our people, customers, business, and the communities we serve safe.

The work we do is complex, urgent, and often conducted in the most demanding of conditions. But no mission is more important than the safety of our people. That is why safety is more than a department, a metric, or a checklist, it is embedded in our culture. A deeply held value that shapes how we work, think, and lead.

In 2024, we introduced STOP — Stop. Think. Own. Protect. A simple yet powerful framework designed to empower every individual at Avincis to pause, assess risk, take ownership, and protect what matters most.

STOP is not a campaign; it is a way of working. It encourages everyone to slow down, especially in moments of pressure or routine, and to act with intent and accountability. Whether it is questioning the status



quo, reporting a hazard, or simply asking 'Is this safe?' STOP reinforces the message that slowing down saves lives.

It is now embedded across our global operations, from visual signage to digital platforms and training sessions, serving as a daily reminder that safety starts with all of us. We can see from the decrease in our reported Long Term Injury Frequency Rate, which has come down by 18%, that this approach is having an impact.

We are committed to building an environment where speaking up is encouraged, reporting is valued, and accountability is balanced with empathy. Through our commitment to promoting a "Just Culture," we ensure that our people feel

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**“...It encourages everyone to slow down, especially in moments of pressure or routine, and to act with intent and accountability.”**

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psychologically safe to share concerns, admit mistakes, and ask questions. Knowing it leads to stronger, safer outcomes for all.

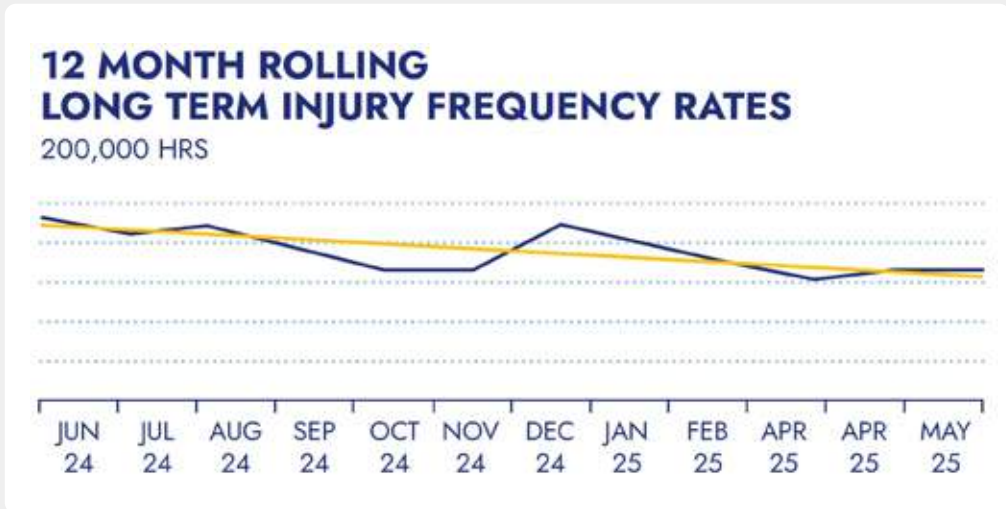
We can measure the success of this campaign by looking at the upwards trend in reporting incidents and injuries across the business since 2023. Reporting has increased by an impressive 60%.

Every mission matters, and behind every mission is a team of professionals dedicated to saving and protecting lives; their own, their colleagues', and those of the communities we serve. We honour that responsibility by embedding safety into every aspect

of our business; from operational procedures and leadership behaviours to training and our deeply held values.

As we move forward, our focus remains clear: to build a safer, more resilient organisation that learns faster, responds smarter and protects better. We will continue to invest in our people, our processes, and our tools, ensuring that safety is reinforced in every decision, every mission, every day.

Since 2023 safety reports have increased by an impressive 60%



Our reported Long Term Injury Rate has decreased by 18%



**Avincis**

# Supply Chain Strategy 2026: Ensuring Aircraft Readiness

**A**t Avincis, our mission is to save lives and protect communities wherever we operate. Achieving this depends on having aircraft that are always serviceable and ready for action. A reliable and responsive supply chain is essential to make this possible — ensuring the right parts and equipment are available exactly when and where they are needed, whether for scheduled maintenance or urgent operational requirements.

## **Aero-focus: supporting operational excellence**

Avincis' supply chain is focused on sourcing and managing aeronautical products — the components, materials, and systems that keep aircraft operational and safe. This includes everything from engines, propellers, and appliances to rotables, consumables, medical equipment, and installed aircraft software.

All aeronautical items are carefully managed and tracked, ensuring availability and traceability across our operations. This approach helps minimise downtime, supports operational reliability, and allows

our crews to respond rapidly when lives are on the line.

## **Non-aeronautical products and services**

While our supply chain concentrates on aviation-critical components, other necessary goods and services — such as office equipment, training, and consultancy support — are managed locally by our teams. This ensures that resources are used efficiently while maintaining the highest standards for aircraft readiness.

## **Strengthening operational reliability**

By focusing on the planning, procurement, and management of aeronautical products, Avincis reinforces its ability to maintain serviceable aircraft, respond quickly to urgent needs, and deliver mission-ready operations at all times. This commitment to operational excellence ensures our teams are always prepared to provide lifesaving services whenever and wherever they are required.





# Science Meets Aviation: Enhancing Safety in High-Risk Missions

Avincis has partnered with Formula Medicine in Italy to launch a pioneering project that uses neuroscience and physiological monitoring to better understand aircrew performance during high-risk missions such as aerial firefighting and HEMS. This marks a shift away from traditional self-reporting towards a more scientific, data-driven approach to managing fatigue and operational readiness.

The first phase focused on our fixed-wing firefighting crews. A group of captains with similar backgrounds underwent comprehensive psychological and physiological assessments at Formula Medicine’s facilities. During the fire season, they were equipped with biometric sensors — including ECG and EEG technology — which captured real-time cognitive and physical data both in flight and on the ground.

The project aims to map the mental and physical demands of these missions, assess how fatigue develops throughout operational days, and evaluate potential performance changes in ageing pilots. The findings will help build tailored performance models for both firefighting and HEMS operations.

This data will support the development of:

- **Early-warning systems to identify fatigue risk**

- **Targeted coaching to strengthen performance**
- **Recommendations for safer mission planning**
- **Long-term strategies to detect age-related cognitive decline**

“Our goal is to deepen our understanding of the physiological and cognitive challenges our crews face so we can build an even more proactive safety culture,” said Luca Giannini, Safety Director Italy. Fabrizio Majerna, Safety Manager Fixed Wing and project initiator, added: “This is a first step toward a scientifically grounded approach to fatigue and performance management — helping us take care of our pilots so they can take care of the mission.”

A detailed report will be produced following the initial phase, offering insights into biometric trends, fatigue patterns and their relationship to operational tasks. These findings may pave the way for a broader programme to enhance performance and resilience across Avincis operations.

This innovative project represents a significant step forward in advancing safety, wellbeing and operational excellence in some of aviation’s most demanding environments.

## A milestone for Avincis Norway: first apprentices qualify as mechanics

In 2023, Avincis Norway was officially approved as an apprenticeship company, and later that year we welcomed our first three apprentices in Tromsø. Now, less than two years on, we are celebrating an important achievement: Ole Morten Isaksen, Simon Haaksvold and Steffen Wang Dinesen have all successfully passed their final exams with excellent results.

The examiners delivered outstanding feedback, recognising both the high quality of their work and the commitment they demonstrated throughout their training. This success is a proud moment not only for the apprentices themselves, but also for everyone who supported and guided them along the way.

This milestone strengthens our operations in Norway. As a provider of emergency preparedness for the air ambulance service, we rely on every part of our organisation working seamlessly. By training and developing our own aircraft mechanics, we reinforce professional reliability, ensure continuity in our services, and build long-term capability within the team.



Ole, Simon and Steffen have now begun their new roles as full-time mechanics with Avincis Norway, just as a new group of apprentices starts its training. This positive cycle of development reflects our commitment to nurturing competence and fostering professional growth across the business.

Their success is also a significant step forward for base maintenance in Norway, reducing our reliance on external technicians and strengthening our ability to meet future maintenance manpower needs. By investing in apprenticeships, we are not only building skills but cultivating a culture of excellence that will support our operations for years to come.



## Preparing crews for high-pressure missions

At our Gardermoen base in Norway, the Super King Air cabin trainer is more than a replica — it's a fully immersive training environment where Avincis

pilots, copilots, and medical teams sharpen their emergency response skills.

Crews face high-pressure scenarios such as extinguishing simulated cabin fires, assisting an unconscious colleague, and completing a full aircraft evacuation in under 90 seconds. Some exercises take place in smoke-filled conditions, and all require the safe removal of a dummy patient.

This vital training is ongoing. After their initial programme, air ambulance crews from all eight of our Norwegian bases return every three years for refresher sessions. From fire-fighting and oxygen-mask procedures to lifejacket demonstrations and evacuation techniques, each exercise ensures teams remain ready for the missions where lives are on the line.



## Strengthening Catalonia's Emergency Response with New SAR and Firefighting

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**A**vincis has begun operations for a new customer in Catalonia with the deployment of an Airbus H145 helicopter to support the region's search and rescue (SAR) and wildfire response missions. Already delivering services in 13 of Spain's 17 autonomous regions, this new deployment further strengthens Avincis' footprint in an important and growing market.

Based at Sabadell Airport in the hangar of the Catalonia Government Fire Service, the Avincis operated aircraft is equipped with a winch system and advanced medical and rescue equipment. They will work alongside two rescue firefighters from the GRAE unit, a flight operator, and a physician from the regional government (Generalitat de Catalunya).

The H145 will undertake a wide range of missions, including SAR in remote and hard-to-access terrain, wildfire surveillance and coordination, and wider civil protection duties. This marks the first time the H145 has been used for land-based SAR in Catalonia — an important milestone for regional emergency operations.

Renowned for its versatility and performance in demanding environments, the H145 is a valuable addition to Catalonia's emergency response capabilities.

"For almost six decades, Avincis has proudly served the communities of Iberia with an unwavering commitment to saving lives and protecting communities," said Rubén García Medina, Avincis Managing Director Iberia.

"The continued trust placed in us by central and regional governments is testament to the reliability and dedication of our teams, and the strength of our multi-mission capabilities. We are proud to support Catalonia's emergency services during this critical period, ensuring continuity of vital operations when they are needed most."

Since 2022, Avincis teams have completed more than 31,000 missions in Spain, operating a fleet of around 120 aircraft and a workforce of approximately 1,200 professionals nationwide.

## The Avincis Bologna team joins the Crans-Montana rescue operations

On January 1, our Bologna crew supported rescue operations following the tragedy in Crans-Montana. The team carried out multiple missions, transferring six patients from Switzerland to Milan for emergency medical care, utilising five Avincis aircraft. The aircraft operating as part of the Emilia-Romagna regional health service flew from Switzerland, supporting transfers of patients to Niguarda Hospital in Milan.

Reflecting on the operation, Group CEO John Boag added:

“We were proud to play a small part in the rescue mission and are grateful for our incredible crews for stepping up at times of crisis. Our support for the victims of the disaster stands as a powerful example of international collaboration and the vital role we play in protecting communities and saving lives.”



## Avincis expands footprint with launch of HEMS operations in Greece

Avincis has expanded its presence in Europe with the launch of its first helicopter emergency medical services (HEMS) operations in Greece. Delivered in partnership with local operator AK Aviation, the new service supports the Greek Ministry of Health (EKAV), with financial and institutional backing from the National Bank of Greece.

Two AW139 helicopters, based in Rhodes, are providing rapid-response medical coverage across both the Greek mainland and islands. The aircraft and crews are tasked with a wide range of emergency missions, including medical evacuations and urgent inter-hospital transfers, ensuring timely access to critical care for those who need it most.

This partnership reflects Avincis' ability to quickly mobilise fleet and personnel across borders and reinforces our role as a trusted partner for

governments and institutions seeking reliable emergency aviation support.

Shortly after operations commenced, we were honoured to host the Greek Minister of Health, Marios Themistocleous, at our base in Rhodes. The visit offered an opportunity for the Minister to tour the AW139 helicopters and meet the teams who deliver frontline care as part of this service.

Since operations began, our teams have already flown more than 110 hours and transported over 60 patients, underscoring the essential role HEMS plays in connecting remote communities with lifesaving medical support.





## Keeping Norway's Life-Saving Missions in the Air

In the crisp air of Norway, where winters plunge to  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and bright summer nights shape life — line technician Stian Johansen plays a crucial behind-the-scenes role in keeping Avincis' air ambulance aircraft mission-ready every hour of the day.

Stian began his aviation journey in 2013 with Norway's air ambulance operator. Over the years, he worked his way from trainee to mechanic to base maintenance technician, always focused on special-mission aircraft. "Maintaining air ambulance helicopters and planes makes me feel like I'm contributing to something good," he says. Stian joined Avincis in 2020, first supporting bases nationwide before taking a permanent role in Bodø. In 2023, he moved to Gardermoen, embracing a larger operation and the challenge of maintaining the Cessna Citation 680A.

### A day in the life at Gardermoen

Stian's day starts early reviewing journey logbooks, so CAMO has up-to-date flight hours for morning planning. He then carries out inspections on the 680A and the Beechcraft King Air B250. Once

both aircraft are cleared, paperwork signed and systems updated, he tidies the hangar before the crews head out on their missions. When the aircraft return, Stian checks in with pilots and medical teams to ensure everything has worked as expected. The aircraft operating 24/7 always receives another quick check, ensuring it's ready at a moment's notice for long-range evacuations.

### Collaboration and working with Norway's extreme weather

Maintaining air ambulance aircraft in Norway is no small task. Winter brings intense cold, ice, and the risk of frozen brakes, switches and flight controls, demanding extra attention to lubrication and anti-icing systems. Warmer months bring different challenges, such as air-conditioning faults. "You have to adapt maintenance work to the season," Stian explains. "Each part of the year affects the aircraft differently."

Whether over a quick morning briefing or during downtime at the dinner table, Stian believes strong communication with pilots and medical crews is

essential. “Understand and get understood — that’s how I work,” he says. “The crew needs to trust that I’ve done everything by the book, and I need to understand what they’ve experienced in flight.”

## The most important tool

Despite having an extensive toolbox, Stian’s most indispensable tool is his phone. During an Aircraft on Ground (AOG) event, he becomes a vital link between Operations Control, CAMO and Logistics to coordinate solutions, order parts and restore aircraft to service. “Sometimes I make 20 calls in a few hours. It’s impressive to see everyone across Avincis push together to deliver the best possible air ambulance service. Everyone matters.”

Through his skill, discipline and calm professionalism, Stian Johansen ensures that our aircraft remain ready to fly life-saving missions across Norway — proving that some of the most essential heroes work quietly behind the hangar doors.



## Delivering ICU-level care across Norway

Did you know that Avincis is the only aerial emergency services provider in Europe operating a Cessna Citation Latitude converted into a fully equipped flying intensive care unit?

Norway’s geography — with its vast distances, mountains, fjords, and remote communities — makes speed and range essential for emergency medical response. That’s why our two specially adapted Latitudes, featuring a widened cabin door, stretcher system and advanced life-support equipment, are so vital to delivering high-quality patient care.

In partnership with Luftambulansetjenesten LAT HF, we provide hospital-level medical support in the air, ensuring patients receive critical care during transport and helping bridge long distances when every minute counts.



## Avincis Reaches a Global First: 5,000 Flight Hours on the AW169

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We are proud to share that Avincis has become the first operator in the world to exceed 5,000 flying hours on the Leonardo AW169.

The aircraft reaching this milestone supports our HEMS operation in Västra Götaland, Sweden, where it has now completed 9,000 missions since entering service in June 2018. Its high demand was clear from the very beginning: on its very first day in service, it flew three missions, setting the pace for the years to come. Since its manufacture in 2018, this aircraft has been operated exclusively by Avincis in this region.

This AW169 is part of our growing fleet of 12 aircraft of this type, contributing to the Group's total fleet of around 210 helicopters and aeroplanes.

Avincis was one of the earliest adopters of the AW169 for HEMS, introducing the first aircraft in Sweden in early 2018. Bases in Östersund, Gällivare and Lycksele soon followed, with Uppsala joining in 2019. Today, three of these bases continue to operate the AW169, each equipped with specialised features — from a customised HEMS cabin to enhanced external lighting systems — to support safe and efficient lifesaving missions.

Reflecting on the achievement, John Boag, Avincis' Group CEO, said: "We are proud to be the first

operator in the world to surpass 5,000 hours and 9,000 missions on the Leonardo AW169. This aircraft has proved to be extremely reliable and robust, and a great choice for our HEMS customers in Sweden and Italy. This achievement has been made possible through our close collaboration with Leonardo, who provide excellent support for our AW fleet. I look forward to seeing the AW169 fly many more hours and save many more lives."

This milestone is a testament to the dedication of our teams across Sweden and the wider Avincis organisation, continuing to set new benchmarks in emergency aerial services.

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***"We congratulate Avincis...It shows the established professionalism and capabilities of the operator as well as the reliability and effectiveness of the AW169 to deliver in demanding operational, weather and environment conditions for critical life-saving duties..."***

*- Stefano Villanti, Leonardo Helicopters*

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*On the horizon...*

# AVINCIS GLOBAL TRAINING CENTRE

**A**vincis is developing a Global Training Centre of Excellence, setting new standards in emergency aviation training.

Designed to support our people, our partners, the centre will deliver advanced live and synthetic training for pilots, technical and medical crews, and rescue teams—combining expertise, technology, and realism.

## Planned training capabilities include:

- ✓ Level D full-flight simulators
- ✓ Rescue hoist and winching simulation
- ✓ Helicopter underwater escape training
- ✓ Mountain and cold-weather operations
- ✓ Medical training for HEMS, SAR, and air ambulance crews



# Training for Precision: How Avincis' Simulator Network Strengthens Mission Readiness Across Europe

At Avincis, every mission begins with preparation. Our commitment to safety, operational excellence, and continuous improvement is reflected in our growing network of advanced simulators across Europe. With owned simulators in Spain and Norway, and exclusive access to the world's only CL-415 full-flight simulator in Italy, we ensure our crews are ready for the most demanding conditions in emergency response and aerial firefighting.

## Bell 412 simulator – Albacete, Spain

With around 26 Bell 412s operating across our Spanish bases, our FTD Bell 412-HP simulator in Albacete plays a vital role in maintaining pilot proficiency on this key firefighting aircraft.

Certified in 2010, the simulator has delivered nearly 8,500 hours of training and supports approximately 400 hours of flight preparation each year. From challenging manoeuvres to emergency procedures, pilots can train safely and repeatedly, ensuring the highest standards of performance during the fire season.



Bell 412 Simulator – Albacete, Spain

## Beechcraft King Air 250 simulator – Gardermoen, Norway

Our state-of-the-art Beechcraft King Air 250 simulator, operational since 2019, supports one of the largest King Air 250 fleets in Europe, with 11 aircraft in Norway and two in Spain.



Beechcraft King Air 250 Simulator – Gardermoen, Norway

Located beside Oslo's main airport and integrated within the CAE Oslo training facility, Avincis operates its own EASA-approved ATO within the centre – meaning all instruction, scenarios, and checks are delivered by Avincis teams.

The simulator offers unparalleled realism, with 14 of Norway's most demanding Category C aerodromes precisely modelled and aircraft performance data captured directly from our fleet. Each year, more than 110 Avincis pilots complete recurrent training, checks, and type-rating courses here, practising

scenarios impossible or unsafe to replicate in real flight, including system failures, extreme weather, and engine loss.

**CL-415 Level D full-flight simulator  
– Sesto Calende, Italy**

Avincis has developed the world’s only CL-415 Level D full-flight simulator in partnership with Ansett Aviation Italia, with the expertise of our engineers, technicians, and pilots. Located near Milan Malpensa Airport, this simulator provides a fully immersive environment for aerial firefighting training.

From water-scooping and low-level operations to high-turbulence and emergency scenarios, it enables Avincis crews — who operate the world’s largest CL-415 fleet — to rehearse the complex challenges of wildfire response. This advanced training ensures pilots maintain exceptional skill, precision, and confidence during real emergency missions.

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***“Our commitment to safety, operational excellence, and continuous improvement is reflected in our growing network of advanced simulators across Europe.”***

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B412 sim -Spain

Canadair sim - Milan

# REGIONAL FOCUS

## Avincis' Vital Nordics Operations

Avincis has been operating across the Nordics (Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden) for more than a decade, providing tailored services to meet the needs of each country while supporting communities throughout the region.



**03**

MAINTENANCE  
HUBS

**24**

OPERATIONAL  
BASES

**36**

AIRCRAFT

**~380**

PEOPLE



**9,160**  
FLYING HOURS

**8,334**  
MISSIONS

## NORWAY

In Norway, our operations focus exclusively on aeroplane air ambulance services, delivered on behalf of LUFTAMBULANSETJENESTEN HF. Operating from our main base in Tromsø, our aircraft connect a network of airports across the country, ensuring the timely transfer of patients between hospitals. Covering large distances, these services are critical to remote communities, where rapid medical response can save lives.



**5,929**  
FLYING HOURS

**8,459**  
MISSIONS

## SWEDEN

In Sweden, we operate a wide network of HEMS helicopter services, strategically located across central and southern regions, with strong bases near Stockholm and Gothenburg. The flexibility of our helicopters allows medical teams to reach emergency locations directly, regardless of terrain or remoteness. Our central maintenance facility in Östersund supports these operations, ensuring aircraft are mission-ready at all times.



**2,000**  
FLYING HOURS

**3,100**  
MISSIONS

## DENMARK

In Denmark, our footprint expanded in 2025 with the acquisition of KN Helicopters, a company serving the offshore wind sector since 2016. KN Helicopters operates three Airbus H135s and one Airbus H145 across permanent bases in Esbjerg and Roskilde, as well as a temporary base in Grenaa, providing essential transport services to the region's offshore infrastructure.



## FINLAND

Finland presents a unique model within our Nordic footprint. Here, Avincis maintains four aircraft, while flight operations are conducted by our customer, FinnHEMS. This partnership enables high standards of aircraft readiness while supporting local emergency response needs.

Across the Nordics, Avincis' operations combine local expertise, strategic positioning, and a strong focus on safety and reliability — ensuring that communities, medical teams, and critical sectors can count on us whenever and wherever we are needed.

# Italian Canadairs in Greece: International Support for The 2025 Wildfire Campaign

For the 2025 wildfire season, Italy offered its support to Greece in the fight against forest fires. The mission involved two Canadair aircraft, four crews, and four technicians, accompanied on site by representatives from the National Fire Brigade and Civil Protection.

Leading the operation for the first time as the designated coordinator was Commander Valerio De Martino, who highlighted with satisfaction the effectiveness of international coordination and the spirit of collaboration with Greek colleagues:

“As happens every year now, this 2025 wildfire season saw us involved in supporting our Greek colleagues in battling forest fires. Taking part in missions like these always brings a certain enthusiasm and added responsibility, knowing that we are bringing important expertise beyond our borders, of which we are inevitably proud.”

Operations followed well-established protocols: technicians prepared the aircraft, while the crews

attended briefings led by the host nation, aimed at ensuring safety and effectiveness in joint missions.

“We have reached excellent standards of integration among the foreign fleets,” added De Martino, “and despite operational differences, we adapted quickly to the dynamics of the local context.”

Among the key figures in the RescEU 2025 firefighting mission in Greece is Danilo Costantino, a base technician and the technical point of reference for the Italian team. According to Costantino, RescEU missions are far more intense than routine activities: it’s not just maintenance but carefully managing every technical and organisational aspect, knowing you are operating in complex and varied environments.

The main challenges involved rapidly adapting to a different operational environment, with specific logistical, linguistic, and technical needs. Despite the emergency, the Greek authorities welcomed the team warmly, facilitating their integration. Collaboration with other international teams took place in a climate





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***“Taking part in missions like this always brings a certain enthusiasm and added responsibility, knowing that we are bringing important expertise beyond our borders, of which we are inevitably proud.”***

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of respect and cooperation. “Being part of the RescEU programme makes us feel involved in something bigger, where our daily commitment takes on an even greater significance,” Costantino emphasised.

During the mission, one of the two aircraft was dedicated to transporting operational personnel, while the other carried spare parts and equipment, selected based on the historical reliability of the systems. The maintenance team consisted of four technicians, ensuring full operational autonomy on site.

This international experience once again confirms the excellence and dedication of Italian personnel in the firefighting sector, underlining the value of European collaboration in managing emergencies.

## **Crossing continents to combat fires**

As the European wildfire season wound down, Avincis will once again supported our customers in the southern hemisphere. Following our counter-season model, two Airbus Super Puma AS332-L2 helicopters were shipped from Vigo, Spain, and have now arrived in San Antonio, Chile, after a month-long journey by sea.

Upon arrival, the aircraft were transported by air to operational bases in Chillán and Los Ángeles, where they are playing a critical role in supporting Chile’s wildfire response. A dedicated team of around 30 Avincis pilots and technicians has joined them to provide full operational and maintenance support throughout the campaign.

Last season, our crews delivered exceptional results in Chile, flying three times more hours than in previous years. Between December 2024 and March 2025, they conducted nearly 3,300 water drops – equivalent to around 10 million litres – with activity peaking in February and March. Our two Super Pumas recorded 437 flight hours, demonstrating both their robustness and the growing demand for aerial firefighting capacity.

The Airbus AS332-L2 Super Puma continues to prove itself as a highly capable asset in these challenging environments. Each aircraft can transport up to 18 firefighters and deploy up to 3,500 litres of water using a Bambi Bucket system. As one of the largest helicopter types in Avincis’ global fleet of 209 aircraft, the Super Puma remains pivotal in delivering safe, effective and reliable support to our customers in Chile and beyond.



# CL-415 Summer Deployment in Naples

As part of its seasonal firefighting campaign, Avincis once again deployed a CL-415 aircraft to the military apron at Naples Capodichino Air Base, operating from 15 June to 30 September 2025.

This marks the seventh consecutive summer deployment at Naples since the seasonal base was first established in 2018, following a request from the Italian Fire Brigade (Vigili del Fuoco). Over the years, this collaboration has become a key component of Italy's aerial firefighting capability.

This summer's operation was particularly successful, achieving outstanding results:

- **871 flight hours across firefighting (AIB), reconnaissance (RIC), and training (TRO) missions**
- **18,343 water drops**
- **334 missions, including refuelling stops at other bases**
- **2 international deployments in Montenegro**

The deployment was strongly supported by the Italian Air Force, whose excellent logistical assistance played a key role in daily operations. One essential element was the "Follow-me" service — an airport vehicle that assists non-based aircraft



during taxiing. The operator ensures safe ground movements to and from the stands by coordinating with Air Traffic Control (ATC) and managing crossings of ground vehicles and equipment over active taxiways. Their proactive service helped minimise delays and maintain safety even during periods of heavy apron activity.

A special thanks also goes to the Fire Brigade crews operating the Sky-Crane helicopter (callsign: Aquila Rossa). On several occasions, they flew in tandem with our CL-415, coordinating efforts over the same fires and demonstrating outstanding synergy both in the air and on the ground.

To celebrate this spirit of cooperation, a group photo was taken on 9 September, featuring personnel and aircraft from the Air Force, Fire Brigade, and Avincis. The Avincis crew who took part in this mission and appear in the photo below were (from left to right): Captain Marina Noberasco, Mission Commander; First Officer Michele Caiazza; and Captain Massimo Ottoboni.

Remarkably, just hours after the photo was taken, both teams were called into action to respond to a fire in Naples' Pianura district, caused by an explosion in an illegal fireworks factory. Thanks to their coordinated response, the fire was quickly contained, and both crews returned safely before nightfall.

"Working side by side with such dedicated teams made this summer mission truly memorable," said First Officer Michele Caiazza. "There was a strong sense of purpose every time we took off — and knowing we had that level of support on the ground and in the air made all the difference."

This seasonal deployment once again underscored the professionalism, collaboration, and operational readiness that define Avincis' mission — protecting communities and supporting emergency services



## Another Intense Firefighting Season for Avincis

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2025 has been another intense year for firefighting at Avincis in Europe where we provide this service in Spain, Portugal and Italy with both aeroplanes and helicopters. The summer season is the peak time for this activity, and from June to October we completed 10,100 flying hours and 52,600 drops, equivalent to 176,5 million litres of water across the three regions.

In Italy, where our Canadair CL-415 crews flew 4,800 hours, this was the second busiest season in the last five years – 2021 was the busiest with 6,000 hours flown. During this period, on average 12 aeroplanes a day were called out to support the fire brigade from the skies, reaching a peak of 17 aircraft tasked at the same time.

The Canadair fleet we operate in Italy also supports RescEU, which brings together aircraft to support areas in Europe overcome by wildfires. This year

was the busiest in five years for these activations with a total of five missions to four different European countries: Albania, Montenegro, Spain and Greece as well as one mission to Israel.

In Iberia (Spain and Portugal), our firefighting fleet of AS332 L2, B412s, B212s, B407s and CL-215s completed 5,300 flying hours and 33,200 drops, equivalent to about 57,5 million litres of water. It was also the second busiest year (after 2022) in the last five years for the Spanish team.

However, August hit a record for being the most active month in five years, with 2,410 flying hours completed. This was mostly due to the severe fires in the northwest and north of Spain, which our B412 fleet played an important role in helping to suppress.



# Marina Makes History as Europe's First Female Canadair Captain

Earlier this summer, Marina Noberasco achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first female Canadair Captain in Europe — a groundbreaking accomplishment in the world of aerial firefighting and aviation.

Her passion for flight began at a young age, building and flying model aircraft with her father at local airstrips. That early fascination soon developed into a lifelong vocation. After her first experience flying a powered microlight in Tuscany, Marina's path led her to the United States to earn her initial pilot licences. Years of determination, training, and experience followed — including work with an air taxi company in Florence, type rating on the MD-80, and a role as a commercial airline co-pilot.

In 2013, she joined the Canadair firefighting programme in Italy — one of the most demanding flying operations in civil aviation. After years of intense training and operational experience, she was officially promoted to captain earlier this year.

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***“I’m incredibly proud of this achievement. It’s a huge personal milestone — and it means even more knowing how many people believed in me.”***

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“The first flights of the summer are always the toughest,” she said. “You’re not yet used to the heat and fatigue, and with the number of wildfires increasing year by year, the workload has grown immensely.”

Marina credits her success to the support of her family, close friends, and colleagues who cheered her on during the final stages of her training. “I’m incredibly proud of this achievement. It’s a huge personal milestone — and it means even more knowing how many people believed in me.”

Becoming a Canadair captain is no small feat. The training is rigorous, involving theoretical study, simulator sessions, familiarisation flights, and live fire missions under the close supervision of instructors and examiners. Beyond technical skill, the role demands teamwork, calm under pressure, and the physical resilience to handle long hours in extreme conditions.

Despite the challenges, Marina remains passionate and committed. “To those who want to follow this path, I say: have faith, and don’t give up at the first difficulty. It’s a long and demanding journey, but the results are worth it. I truly believe the sky is always there to help us”.

As a group, we are incredibly proud and fortunate to have her on our team — a true pioneer, an inspiration to many, and a shining example of skill, perseverance, and dedication.





*Captain Miguel Gnecco, Co-Pilot Andrea Celletti and the firefighters they saved*

## **In the Heart of The Flames: The Avincis Teamwork Behind a Critical Extraction**

On 25 September, during the Peñalba de la Sierra wildfire — a small mountain hamlet in central Spain’s Guadalajara province — two Bell 412 helicopters operated by Avincis for the Gobierno de Castilla-La Mancha executed one of the most complex extractions of the firefighting season. Sixteen firefighters from the BRIF Lubia were trapped on a steep ridge, exposed to smoke inhalation and burns. Their safe evacuation was made possible through the precision, experience, and calm decision-making of the Avincis crews.

### **Courage under pressure**

Captain Miguel Gnecco, flying the MM45 from the Corduente base, recalls the moment the mission became critical: “After several hours of water drops, we received an urgent alert to rescue the Lubia brigade. They were trapped on a cliff, some suffering smoke inhalation and burns, and their exact location was unclear due to dense smoke and strong winds.”

With ground access impossible, Gnecco relied on altitude, visual cues, and extensive planning to locate the firefighters. Carefully assessing obstacles, wind direction, and landing options, he guided his Co-Pilot Andrea Celletti step by step through the approach. “You have to stay calm and have a plan B,” he said. “The smoke, the wind, the terrain — every variable matters. Our training and years of experience meant we could make fast, safe decisions.”

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***“The smoke, the wind, the terrain — every variable matters. Our training and years of experience meant we could make fast, safe decisions.”***

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Meanwhile, Captain Carlos Valencia, commanding the MM53 from Robledo de Buey, had been supporting firefighting operations in the northern valley. As the fire intensified, he realised the Lubia brigade faced immediate danger. “We saw that the firefighters were in a very high, rocky area with almost no margin for error,” Valencia explained. “With the Bambi bucket deployed, entering directly would have fanned the flames or pushed smoke towards the firefighters. I made the decision to drop it first, then return for the evacuation.”

### **Precision, coordination, and teamwork**

Both helicopters worked in close coordination under challenging conditions. Gnecco landed on a narrow, smoke-filled ledge, guiding the firefighters into the helicopter, while Valencia positioned his aircraft to retrieve the remaining personnel safely.

Co-pilot Christopher Boecker, assisting Valencia alongside certifying mechanic Víctor Rodríguez, highlighted the importance of clear communication and shared procedures: “Carlos and I have flown countless fires together, and that experience helped us maintain focus and make split-second decisions. The brigade remained calm and professional, which made all the difference.”

Every second was critical. Dense smoke, unpredictable winds, and steep terrain left no margin for error. Yet, through calm leadership, teamwork, and adherence to rigorous training, all 16 firefighters were safely evacuated.

### **Reflections on the mission**

The pilots emphasised the importance of preparation, experience, and ongoing training. “We train these scenarios at the start of every season,” Valencia noted. “Standardising procedures and practising emergency decision-making ensures that when the moment comes, we act as one team.”

Gnecco reflected on the personal impact: “Every day you learn something new, no matter how long you’ve been flying. What motivates me most is knowing that our work helps people get home to their families safely.”

This mission underlines the essential role of helicopters in wildfire response, particularly in remote, rugged terrain, and highlights the skill, professionalism, and teamwork that define Avincis crews.



## Hope Delivered from Seville's Skies

For the past year and a half, Rocío Murga has been a vital part of Avincis, serving as a HEMS Crew Technician in Seville with the 061 Andalucía Emergency Service. From a young age, Rocío knew exactly what she wanted: a career in healthcare,



the chance to become a psychologist, and the opportunity to board a helicopter to help others. Today, she is living that dream every day.

"This job has taught me that no two shifts are ever the same," Rocío explains. "The uncertainty is constant, but so is the motivation to give your best. Every team member has very specific responsibilities, yet everyone is equally essential. That sense of belonging and being a key part of the team drives us to keep learning and improving."

### A day in the life

A typical shift begins with routine checks: inspecting the helicopter, preparing medical equipment, and organising the crew. But when the call comes, it's all systems go. "In less than ten minutes, we can be airborne and heading straight to an emergency," Rocío says. On the ground, she ensures the helicopter remains safe, manages the approach of nearby vehicles, and, when possible, assists the medical team in providing care. Upon returning to base, preparations start again, because another call could come at any moment.

### Moments that matter

What moves Rocío most is seeing the difference the team makes for those in crisis. "Even in life-or-death situations, our arrival often brings calm and hope. Sometimes it's someone's final moment, yet they welcome us with peace. Those moments remind me why I do this work," she reflects.

Rocío's philosophy is simple: being there for others in their most vulnerable moments is not just a job, it's a calling. "Every shift reinforces why I love what I do. It's challenging, intense, and unpredictable, but it's also deeply rewarding."

Her dedication, courage, and compassion make a tangible difference every day. Rocío's story reminds us that behind every mission are individuals committed to excellence and care, embodying the values that make Avincis proud to serve communities across Spain and beyond.



## Leone 1's Lifesaving Missions: Avincis at the Heart of Mountain Rescue in Veneto

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Leone 1, the air ambulance service based in Treviso and operating the advanced AW169 helicopter, continues to stand at the heart of emergency medical response in Italy's Veneto region, with its crew showing remarkable dedication.

In 2024, the service completed an impressive 640 missions. Of these, 500 were primary interventions, responding directly to accidents or medical emergencies, often in remote or mountainous areas. The team also carried out 154 night-time missions with the support of NVG (Night Vision Goggles), enabling safe landings even on unlit or challenging terrain. Leone 1 also played a vital role in mountain rescue, completing 120 missions in the provinces of Treviso, Vicenza, Padua, and Belluno, where altitude, terrain, and weather demand the highest levels of skill and precision.

The pace has continued into 2025, with 380 missions completed between January and June alone. These included 282 primary missions and 98 secondary transfers between hospitals. Of the total,

86 took place during night-time hours, once again highlighting the crucial role of NVG technology in ensuring no location is out of reach.

Avincis Pilot Michele Cibirin explains the importance of this capability: "We use the natural light sources in the sky to intensify what we're able to see. This allows us to identify the surrounding terrain. For a full picture, we also look beyond the lenses to mentally map out the environment."

Every mission relies on the expertise of a six-person crew: two pilots, an aeronautical technician, a nurse, an anaesthetist-resuscitator, and a CNSAS alpine rescue specialist. Together, they bring seamless teamwork and unwavering professionalism to life-saving operations across the Veneto.

As the demand for specialised rescue continues to grow, particularly in mountainous and coastal regions, Avincis remains committed to delivering critical support — combining cutting-edge technology, highly trained professionals, and 24/7 readiness to reach those in need, wherever they may be.

# Your Ultimate Guide to Helicopter Safety

Written by the late Avincis HEMS Pilot Paolo Dal Pozzo, who was tragically lost in a ground accident in 2024, this trusted survival manual blends real-world experience with essential safety guidance for every helicopter pilot.

- ✓ General Knowledge and Procedures
- ✓ Malfunctions and Emergencies
- ✓ Mountain Flying and High Altitude Flying
- ✓ Helicopter Handling and Aircraft Systems



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