

Russia to Export 200 Helicopters by 2017

By The Moscow Times

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Russia will export more than 200 helicopters of different types to 12 countries between 2015 and 2017 under already-signed contracts, news agency RIA Novosti reported Monday.

Among the prospective clients are governments in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and countries bordering Russia, said Sergei Kornev, head of state arms exporter Rosoboronexport's delegation to the Airshow China exposition in Zhuhai.

Last year Rosoboronexport exported more than 140 Mi-17 and Mi-35M helicopters, which were delivered to Ghana, India, China, Myanmar, the U.S. and Sri Lanka, as well as Kazakhstan and other former Soviet republics.

This year the company delivered helicopters to eight countries, including all-purpose Mi-17-B-5 and Mi-17Sh helicopters as well as Mi-35M and Mi-28NE military helicopters, RIA Novosti reported.

Russia's helicopter industry, a leader in the field, is expected to see an injection of funds worth rubles (\$164 million) this year, Deputy Industry and Trade Minister Yury Slyusar announced at a news conference in May.

The helicopter market is worth \$20 billion worldwide, with Russia controlling 15 percent of it primarily on sales of all-purpose and military helicopters, Kornev said.

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