

Rotorfest, which will incorporate the **Rotor Rally 2006** flight demonstrations, is the nation's premiere all-helicopter air show. Each year, Rotorfest attracts thousands of spectators and includes displays of military and civilian helicopters. Rotorfest/Rotor Rally 2006 will be held on October 14th and 15th at the Brandywine Municipal Airport (N99) in West Chester, PA. Additional sponsors of Rotor Rally 2006 include Pennsylvania State University and Keystone Helicopters.

The Center for Rotorcraft Innovation is keenly interested in promoting an expanded acceptance and role of rotorcraft for disaster and emergency relief activities, and is actively involved in research and development programs focused on reducing product cost, improving safety and gaining enhanced community acceptance. **Rotor Rally 2006** will draw national attention to the roles and capabilities of emergency responders and enhance their image across the nation, and the US image in the world helicopter community.

CRI is an outgrowth of the Rotorcraft Industry Technology Association (RITA) and its academic and government partners. CRI's goal is to steadily increase funds for rotorcraft research to supplement existing government and industry programs and focus those new dollars on emerging rotorcraft technology needs. CRI is comprised of major rotorcraft manufacturers, academic centers that focus on rotorcraft research, smaller rotorcraft companies and rotorcraft suppliers and vendors.

For more information on **Rotorfest 2006**, please visit

www.helicoptermuseum.org

For more information on **Rotor Rally 2006**, please go to

www.iROTOR.org



Rotor Rally 2006:

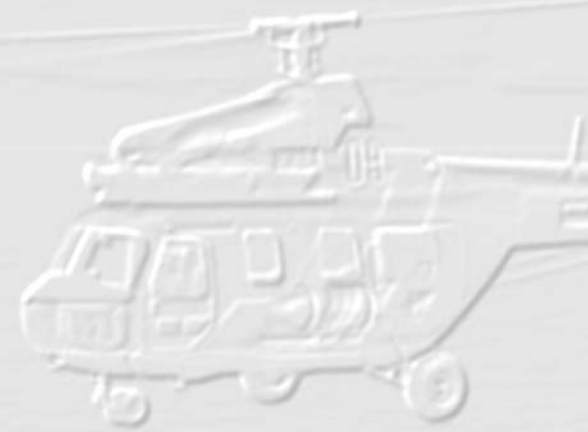
A landmark effort to promote the American rotorcraft industry

October 14-15, 2006

The role of rotorcraft responders will be highlighted through competition and demonstrations at a festival in Pennsylvania

A major new effort to highlight the American helicopter industry will take flight this fall in suburban Pennsylvania with Rotor Rally 2006. Rotor Rally is the first step in a major new effort to train American pilots and helicopter teams to compete in the most prestigious international helicopter competition.

The World Helicopter Championship, sponsored by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), brings together outstanding pilots from around the world to compete for global recognition. Through a series of intricate events, competitors demonstrate such skills as precision flying while carrying a delicate payload; maintaining a constant altitude while navigating a precise course flying forward, backwards, sideways; and cross-country aerial navigation.



At the invitation of the Center for Rotorcraft Innovation (CRI), the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center has agreed to team with CRI to promote American participation in the next World Helicopter Championship to be held in 2008. Rotor Rally 2006 – a demonstration of flying skills required to compete – will be held in conjunction with the Museum's annual Rotorfest air show. The world champion Russian crew has been invited to perform as part of the

program. Along with the Russians, a limited number of American pilots will also be invited to exhibit their skills. This year's demonstrations, which are expected to receive national attention, will be in preparation of a planned 2007 US national competition – with the 2007 winners representing the U.S. at the 2008 World Helicopter Championship.

During the week prior to the Rotor Rally 2006 demonstrations, there will be a full program of seminars and guest speakers for participants sponsored by CRI at the Delaware County campus of Penn State University. The CRI will also conduct a First Responder Short Course covering topics of interest to fire, police and emergency medical helicopter responders (please go to the CRI website www.iROTOR.org for more details).



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