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## ADAC HEMS Academy under new management

- **Reorganisation at the subsidiary of the charitable ADAC air rescue service**
- **The international training centre for helicopter pilots and medical crews as of immediately managed by Steven Igodt (40) and Dr Matthias Ruppert (52)**

(ADAC HEMS Academy GmbH) The ADAC HEMS Academy, the first international training centre for helicopter pilots and medical crews at St Augustin near Bonn, has reorganised its management. As of immediately, the subsidiary of the charitable ADAC air rescue service will be managed jointly by Steven Igodt (40) and Dr Matthias Ruppert (52). "We are very pleased to have recruited two recognised experts with long-standing experience in helicopter emergency medical services, aviation and acute medicine for this high-responsibility assignment," said Frédéric Bruder, Managing Director of ADAC Luftrettung gGmbH, an organisation operating under the umbrella of the charitable ADAC foundation.

Steven Igodt's area of responsibility is the executive management of the ADAC HEMS Academy. Most recently, the native Belgian was a Business Performance Manager for a leading European services provider in the area of marine surveying and offshore installations. Before that, he worked many years for NHV Group in Belgium, an international operator of civilian helicopters in on- and offshore operations. His positions included Business Unit Manager Northern Europe and global projects and later a number of years as Chief Commercial Officer, responsible for the development of a commercial strategy within NHV Group, including activities in marketing, sales, customer retention and acquisition.

Dr Matthias Ruppert is the medical manager of the ADAC HEMS Academy. Until 2020, the 52-year-old was the medical manager of ADAC Luftrettung gGmbH for many years. His responsibilities in this position included emergency medical operations as well as the development of patient simulations and training centres and of new qualification and training formats. Before joining the flying yellow angels, he worked a number of years at the internationally renowned institute for emergency medicine and medical management (INM) at Ludwig Maximilians University in Munich. He worked as a specialist for anaesthesiology at the Munich university hospital and other hospitals and responded to over 5,000 calls as an emergency doctor.

The new management team considers staff quality and competency to be the decisive factors in driving safety and quality in HEMS, aviation and acute medicine. "With our highly qualified staff, we aim to further develop international training and ongoing training for the HEMS community. And in a constantly changing field with ever increasing demands on flight crews and medical staff we want to set new trends," explained Mr Igodt and Dr Ruppert. In their work, they value open communication, teamwork and confidence in the capabilities and expertise of their staff.

### **About the ADAC HEMS Academy GmbH**

The ADAC HEMS Academy serves HEMS and police organisations as well as offshore helicopter operators and other operators of Airbus type EC135, EC145 and H145 helicopters worldwide. Helicopter pilots, medical personnel profit from the latest knowledge in flight and rescue operations as well as acute emergency care. At the academy, they improve interaction between the members of a crew and perfect key procedures in extreme scenarios.

Subject to annual control flight and ongoing training requirements to keep their licences up-to-date, HEMS pilots can use three of the most state-of-the-art full-flight simulators at the St Augustin facilities to train for complex mission scenarios. The options include realistic simulations of flying a helicopter at sea or in the mountains or flying with night-vision gear. The training centre features a simulator facility, class and briefing rooms, computer-aided training equipment and the latest in media technologies.

The ADAC HEMS Academy also features a medical training facility with two 1:1 helicopter mock-ups, an ambulance, a trauma unit and a set of modern patient simulators. ADAC HEMS quality management is certified to DIN EN ISO 9001:2000:2015.

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