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## WASSB gets JX Nippon contract to operate AgustaWestland AW189 heli

BY SHAREN KAUR - 27 JULY 2015 @ 11:54 AM

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KUCHING: Weststar Aviation Services Sdn Bhd (WASSB) will use its first in the region AgustaWestland AW189 helicopter to transport offshore workers and goods for JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Sdn Bhd.

The helicopter will fly from Miri Airport for JX Nippon's deep-water exploration drilling program at the deep-water block DW2F located 210 nautical miles offshore Sarawak.

WASSB was awarded a RM10 million contract by JX Nippon, recently for the services. The contract has a duration of three months, with an extension option to come in view in October.

At the contract's maiden flight commencement ceremony, WASSB business development director, Datuk Anuar Noordin said, "We are pleased to have entered into this contract. Meeting our clients' needs for safe and efficient transportation, the introduction of our AW189 helicopter type works out as a timely introduction, aptly corresponding to what the industry is looking for at the moment."

"We are proud to be the first owner and operator of the AW189 helicopter in Asia Pacific. This is the first AW189 of four that we have ordered. Furthermore, this is also an important milestone in order to harness our unique opportunities for upward mobility, moving from medium type helicopter to heavy type helicopter. We are seeing more opportunities to utilize this type of heavy helicopter surfacing to support deep-water operations in Sabah and Sarawak," he said.

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