

IAI DEVELOPS TACTICAL UPGRADE PACKAGE FOR THE RUSSIAN MI-8 & MI-17 ASSAULT HELICOPTERS

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A modular Tactical Upgrade Package for modernizing the Russian MI-8 and MI-17 helicopters has been developed by Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd. (IAI). These rugged assault helicopters, manufactured in the thousands, are in operational service in many countries. Most of them, however, require upgrading to enable them to effectively operate in modern battlefield conditions.

IAI is demonstrating the upgraded helicopter at the Aero-India Airshow in Bangalore.

IAI's Tactical Upgrade Package, named "Peak-17", includes a modular Avionics System based on the "Glass Cockpit" concept, an Electronic Warfare suit, and a flexible armament package. The Lahav Division's upgrade package utilizes subsystems, which were designed for the Russian MI-35 and KA-50-2 attack helicopters, and thereby achieves a common architecture for both assault and attack helicopters.

The upgrade transforms the old cockpit into modern computerized crew stations, which include multifunction electronic displays that enable the pilots to receive information that is specific to the current mission segment. Included among the system's "smart" displays is the digital mission map, which enables mission data to be updated during flight; and the helmet mounted display, which enables the pilot to see crucial data in any head position.

The Lahav Division led the development of the upgrade package for the MI-8 & MI-17 helicopters along with other IAI Divisions, which supplied combat-proven systems. The Mata Division is responsible for the installation design of both the cockpit panels and the various avionics systems as well as for adapting the cockpit to be Night Vision Goggles compatible. The Tamam division is responsible for supplying the HMOSP observation & targeting payload and the pilot "smart" helmet. The Elta Division is responsible for the helicopter's self-protection system, supplying advanced Electronic Warfare components.

The Tactical Upgrade Package offered by IAI expands the helicopter's mission envelope by providing full capabilities at night and in adverse weather and by significantly improving its battlefield survivability, thus facilitating the return-to-service and life extension of this previous generation platform. IAI will provide its customers with full support for the helicopter by applying modern technologies based on western standards.



Upgrade MI-8 & MI-17 Assault Helicopters

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