



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patriarch Partners' Portfolio Company MD Helicopters Inc. Receives Women's Business Enterprise National Certification

MESA, Arizona, October 7, 2010 – MD Helicopters, Inc. (MDHI) has received national certification as a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) by the Women's Business Enterprise Council West Certification Committee, a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC).

"We are pleased to receive this important certification by WBENC and we are honored to be a part of this great organization that promotes and fosters growth for women-owned businesses," said Lynn Tilton, founder and CEO of Patriarch Partners, whose investment funds are majority owners of MD Helicopters, Inc.. In addition to her role at Patriarch, Ms. Tilton also serves as the Chairman and CEO of MD Helicopters Inc. "We look forward to building a more expansive relationship with WBENC as we certify more of our portfolio companies and build our own diversity programs within our businesses, creating a network of depth and breadth."

"WBENC-West is honored to certify the premier woman-owned aviation company, MD Helicopters, Inc. as a WBENC-certified Women's Business Enterprise, and look forward to working with Lynn Tilton as she leads MD to future success," said Pamela Williamson, Ph.D., Executive Director of Women's Business Enterprise Council West.

WBENC's national standard of certification implemented by the Women's Business Enterprise Council –West Certification Committee is a meticulous process including an in-depth review of the business and a site inspection. The certification process is designed to confirm the business is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by a woman or women. According to the WBENC, by including women-owned businesses among their vendors, corporations and government agencies demonstrate their commitment to fostering diversity and the continued development of their supplier/vendor diversity programs.

About MD Helicopters, Inc.:

MD Helicopters, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of commercial and military helicopters. The MDHI family of rotorcraft is world renowned for its value, versatility and performance. The MD Helicopters family includes the twin-engine MD Explorer®, and single engine versions of the MD 600N®, MD 520N®, MD 500E® and MD 530F®. The NOTAR® system for anti-torque control is used exclusively by MD Helicopters. The Company is based in Mesa, Ariz. For more information about MDHI visit: <http://www.mdhelicopters.com>.



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About Patriarch Partners, LLC:

Patriarch Partners is a vertically integrated distressed private equity firm with robust in-house operational turnaround expertise. Patriarch Partners, LLC ("Patriarch"), founded in 2000, was built upon a proprietary patented financial model designed to manage and monetize the distressed portfolios of financial institutions. Patriarch has since evolved into a global investment firm that concentrates on direct investments in stressed and distressed businesses, managing funds with over \$7 billion of equity and secured loan assets with equity investments in more than 70 companies, and controlling interests in approximately two-thirds of these. For more information, please visit: www.patriarchpartners.com.

About WBENC:

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council is the nation's largest third party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women in the United States. WBENC is a resource for the more than 700 US companies and government agencies that rely on WBENC's certification as an integral part of their supplier diversity programs. www.wbenc.org/.

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