

MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SECURITY & RESCUE TRAINING CENTER TO OPEN FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY SECTORS

Sahra Group and AMST partner for first of its kind facility in the UAE set to provide world-class training for critical emergency response in the Middle East and beyond

Advanced Helicopter and Water Rescue Simulators will ensure teams are fully prepared for the operational challenges of live-saving missions

Groundbreaking center will allow for more efficient, safe, sustainable and cost-effective training



DUBAI, UAE, [13 April 2026] – A new multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art Security and Rescue Training Center (SRTC) - the first commercial facility of its kind in the world - is set to be built in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It will serve as a regional hub for advanced, first-class, certified mission-based training for Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS), law enforcement, special forces, and commercial enterprises across the UAE, GCC, MENA, Africa, Far East and wider international markets.

Created by investment firm, Sahra Group, the groundbreaking facility, opening in 2028, will be constructed and operated in partnership with worldwide leader in solutions for aircrew training and simulation, AMST Group.

The SRTC will be the only commercial capability in the world to combine high-fidelity simulation environments for Helicopter Emergency Response and OPITO Training, including helicopter hoist systems, fast roping and rappelling towers, Helicopter Underwater Egress Trainers (HUET), and maritime vessel simulators to enable safe, realistic training for high-risk scenarios that cannot be safely and efficiently replicated in live training. It will enable 24/7 training for medical emergency response, water rescues, rescue in natural disasters, special forces and counter-terrorism operations as well as high-speed boat operations. SRTC will provide a full service offering for all disciplines.

The center will house helicopter simulators suspended on cranes that fly in the facility - sounding and feeling like the real thing - as well as fast vessel simulators and a water pool for rescue and emergency egress in water, to mimic real world rescue and mission scenarios. As well as freeing-up real, physical assets for operational use, these training programs can be completed at a fraction of the cost of live training. Training will incorporate realistic environmental challenges including darkness, rotor downwash and high noise levels, ensuring teams are fully prepared for the pressures of live-saving missions.

With an investment of AED 180 million (USD 50 million), the facility has capacity to train up to 4,500 personnel annually across Police, Coast Guard, Civil Defense, Medical Service, Fire Service, Army, Navy and Special Forces, as well as commercial customers from the tourism, oil, gas and energy sectors. The center will also play an important part in disaster management, as helicopters are instrumental in first response. It will be a regional center of excellence and a critical piece of safety and operational infrastructure for the UAE and wider MENA region.

Jamal Alkaf, CEO at Sahra Group, says: “This facility represents a significant investment in the future of mission-critical training and positions the UAE at the forefront of global capability development. As the first facility of its kind, it brings together advanced simulation, integrated environments, and full-spectrum training in a way that simply does not exist today.

“Beyond its immediate impact, the SRTC is designed as a scalable platform for growth - capable of expanding its training offerings, technologies, and international partnerships over time. Our vision is not only to set a new benchmark for operational readiness, but to establish a global center of excellence that will attract organizations from across the region and around the world seeking the highest standards in safety, sustainability, performance, and efficiency.”

Currently, most rescue missions, military operations, and industrial tasks must be carried out under tight time constraints, often in harsh weather, and intensely stressful conditions - placing aircrew and operational teams at significant risk. While helicopters are involved in over 1,000 rescues each year, traditional training using them is often costly, time-consuming, weather-dependent, and inherently dangerous when conducted in real-world conditions. Synthetic training increases training efficiency significantly, as trainees can typically gather 10 times the experience in simulation compared to live helicopter training.

SRTC overcomes those challenges, providing a controlled environment where teams can train safely, efficiently, and cost-effectively to a superior standard, with refresher courses accessible every year. Teams using the center can save thousands in costs by switching from real helicopters in training scenarios – which often cost up to USD10,000 per hour to hire, fuel and operate. The helicopter simulators in the SRTC will run at a fraction of the cost and are considerably more sustainable – cutting CO₂ emissions per hour by over 99% compared to real helicopter flight.

Wolfgang Lindlbauer, Senior Business Development Manager at AMST Group, added: “In every rescue, operation or critical response, the margin for error is measured in seconds - and in lives. This new facility will eliminate uncertainty by recreating the most demanding real-world conditions in a controlled, repeatable environment. Here, teams will master intense and hazardous scenarios, from complex helicopter hoist operations to high-risk water rescues and rapid deployment techniques. It will enable key personnel to build instinct, precision, and confidence to take forward into the field. The training starts with the basics and ends with the trainee completing mission simulation, very similar to reality.

“By combining advanced simulation with mission-based training, we are making world-class preparation safer, more accessible, and more cost-effective, ensuring that every crew member, responder, and operator is equipped to perform when it matters most.”

The center will also uniquely support helicopter-assisted and water-based industrial and infrastructure missions, including maintenance and repair work on electrical power lines, wind turbines, cranes, telecommunications equipment and offshore oil and gas installations.

Sahra Group and AMST have begun the process, with completion and official opening scheduled for the first half of 2028.

ENDS

About Sahra Group

Sahra Group is a collection of companies that provide complimentary services to Oil, Gas, Energy, Mining and a wide range of related industries. It has expanded to diversify into Design, Crypto, Beauty, Cosmetics, Training, Space, Security, Technology and many more. At the heart of its conglomerate lies a cohesive network of companies, each contributing to a diverse array of industries while unified by a shared vision of innovation, sustainability, and excellence. With a steadfast commitment to serving its customers, communities, and stakeholders, Sahra Group and its subsidiaries stand as pillars of growth and prosperity.

For further information visit sahra-group.com

About AMST Group

AMST is a leading manufacturer of military and civil flight simulation solutions with more than 40 years of experience and a global customer base. The company develops airplane and helicopter simulators from generic training devices to full mission trainers. The company specializes in advanced simulation systems for helicopter pilots and crews, with a strong focus on mission-critical operations such as search and rescue, emergency services, and special missions.

A core differentiator is AMST's worldwide leadership in Human Factors Training. This know-how is directly transferred into helicopter crew training systems, most notably the Helicopter Rescue Hoist Trainer, a unique solution designed to realistically train complete crews for demanding helicopter operations. By enhancing safety, coordination, and operational effectiveness in the most challenging environments, AMST's training solutions ultimately support crews in performing when it matters most, and in saving lives.

For further information visit amst.co.at

For briefings, interviews or further information please contact:

361 Communications

Tom Clayton +44 7932429296 | tom.clayton@361communications.com

Rachel Bowden +44 7769900538 | rachel.bowden@361communications.com

Emma-Jo Jones +44 7796934230 | emma-jo.jones@361communications.com