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MORNINGCALL

Helicopter firms Columbia, Evergreen win \$77M in defense contracts

Portland Business Journal by Erik Siemers , Business Journal staff writer

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Helicopter services firms Columbia Helicopters Inc. and Evergreen Helicopters won a pair of defense contracts valued at more than \$77 million for air transport and cargo services in Afghanistan.

Aurora-based Columbia's contract, valued at \$54.6 million, calls for rotary wing aircraft, personnel, equipment, tools, material, maintenance and supervision to operate passenger and air cargo services in Afghanistan through Oct. 31, 2012.

McMinnville-based Evergreen Helicopters -- a division of Evergreen International Aviation Inc. -- has been chosen to do the same on a contract valued at \$22.8 million.

Both were termed as "option year modification" contracts and were issued by the U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Erik Siemers covers footwear and apparel, technology, energy, manufacturing and ports.

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