

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact for the media:  
Airplane Division - Philippe de Segovia  
Tel +33 (0)6 70 21 70 47 - [p.de-segovia@socata.daher.com](mailto:p.de-segovia@socata.daher.com)



---

## DAHER-SOCATA selects Atlantic Aero as its TBM Service Center for the United States' Central Eastern region

**Oshkosh, Wisconsin, July 28, 2009** – DAHER-SOCATA today announced the selection of North Carolina-based Atlantic Aero International as its newest Authorized TBM Service Center in North America – further strengthening the U.S. repair, overhaul and support network for the TBM family of very fast turboprop aircraft.

The announcement of Atlantic Aero's service center selection was made during the Experimental Aircraft Association's AirVenture 2009 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. With the addition of Atlantic Aero, DAHER-SOCATA has reached its goal of locating authorized service centers within a three-hour flight of the home airport of any U.S. TBM customer.

"Atlantic Aero is a partner of choice for DAHER-SOCATA, providing TBM operators with capabilities that range from avionics, engine, and airframe repair, to engineering support and cabin interior outfitting," said Nicolas Chabbert, the President of SOCATA North America. "With the growing TBM fleet in North America, Atlantic Aero will reinforce our U.S. network – joining our existing East Coast service centers in Pembroke Pines, Florida to the south and Columbia Air Services, Groton, Connecticut, to the north."

Created in 1971, Atlantic Aero is an FAA Approved Aircraft Maintenance and Repair station that concentrates on high-end, full-service maintenance for business jets and turboprop-powered transports. With a strong presence in the Eastern U.S., the company's 24-hour coverage is supported by a team of 56 technicians at Greensboro's Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO). Atlantic Aero's business portfolio includes its role as the FlexJet fractional ownership program's primary maintenance partner.

"We're proud to add the world's fastest single turboprop to Atlantic Aero's aircraft maintenance capability list, and look forward to welcoming TBM customers in North Carolina at our Greensboro facility," said Atlantic Aero President and COO Jim Spinder. "DAHER-SOCATA is an excellent company to work with, and we foresee a strong interest in this business aircraft – which is extremely efficient and affordable. We anticipate a growing activity for the TBM fleet, along with new support opportunities for us."

The TBM 850 is available via DAHER-SOCATA's existing direct sales and distribution network, and is supported by its extensive worldwide system of service centers. Since its launch in 2005, the TBM 850 has become an international success – with more than 200 aircraft sold, and 158 delivered to date to customers around the globe.

As the world's fastest single engine turboprop, the TBM 850 has a maximum cruise speed of 320 kts. at 26,000 ft. (in ISA conditions). It is an 850-shp. version of SOCATA's proven six-seat TBM 700 turboprop business aircraft, and combines the cruising speed and travel times typical of light jets with highly economical direct operating costs, while offering the range and excellent payload capacity of a turboprop aircraft.

### **About DAHER-SOCATA**

DAHER is a European integrated equipment and services supplier.

In addition to aerospace, DAHER specializes in three other sectors: nuclear, defense and industries. DAHER is developing in three fields of expertise: manufacturing, services and transport, which enable it to offer a comprehensive package.

DAHER-SOCATA is one of the world's leading general aviation manufacturers, with more than 17,000 aircraft built since its creation as Morane-Saulnier in 1911. Current products include the TBM 850 high-speed turboprop aircraft, aerostructures for Airbus civil airliners, the A400M military transporter, Dassault Falcon jets, Eurocopter helicopters and Embraer regional jets.

DAHER-SOCATA is expanding its customer service activities to support its growing fleet of TBMs and offer its light aviation expertise for aircraft below 19,000 lbs (8.6 metric tons) through avionics modernization, maintenance, repair and overall package offers.

Founded in 1863, DAHER is an independent international group, with more than 7,000 employees and 12 international installations (four in Western Europe, three in Eastern Europe, two in North America, two in Africa and one in Australia). DAHER will exceed a €850 million turnover in 2009.

For more information, visit [www.daher.com](http://www.daher.com) and [www.tbm850.com](http://www.tbm850.com)