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**Advanced flight simulator for the TBM 850 very fast turboprop aircraft is operational at SimCom's Florida training center**

- **New U.S.-based flight training device features the TBM 850's G1000 integrated cockpit and new high-definition visuals**

**Orlando, Florida, June 1, 2009** – SOCATA today announced that a new TBM 850 flight training device (FTD) is now fully operational at the Orlando, Florida training center of SimCom – a leading provider of simulator training services for business, general aviation and regional airline pilots.

This new training tool has a high-resolution visual system and is configured with the TBM 850's Garmin G1000 integrated avionics suite. Its location on the U.S. south Atlantic coast centrally positions the simulator for TBM 850 operators throughout North America – which is the single largest geographic market for the very fast turboprop aircraft, as well as for customers in Latin and Central America.

"With its G1000-equipped cockpit and high-definition visuals, SimCom's new flight training device will ease the TBM 850 transition course by creating an environment that is very close to real-world conditions," said Nicolas Chabbert, the President of SOCATA North America, who also is a Certified Flight Instructor. "As the TBM fleet grows, SimCom's training programs continue to combine advanced simulation technology with the latest computer animation to provide pilots with a highly realistic training experience."

The TBM 850 FTD's visual system uses a Redifun RASTER XT image generator with a 172-deg.-wide field of view. This advanced 60-Hz visual system offers day/dawn/dusk/night or continuous time of day operation. It features more than 15,000 light points per channel with 2.5-arc-minute resolution and uni- and bi-directional light point lobe patterns. In addition, the FTD integrates new functions on instructor touch screens and a new improved audio system.

Chabbert added that pilots who complete their training at SimCom will be well prepared to operate the technologically-advanced TBM 850 and benefit fully from the aircraft's integrated avionics suite – which enhances the management of flight data, eases workload and increases situational awareness.

“SimCom offers a broad range of training programs designed to meet operators’ specific needs, and our new TBM 850 FTD further expands our portfolio of simulator training programs – which already includes the TBM 700,” explained Tracy Brannon, SimCom’s senior vice president and managing director.

The Very Fast Turboprop TBM 850 is the world’s fastest single engine turboprop, with a maximum cruising speed of 320 KTAS at 26,000 ft. (in ISA conditions). A 850-shp. version of SOCATA’s proven six-seat TBM 700 turboprop business aircraft, the TBM 850 combines the cruising speed and travel times typical of light jets with economical direct operating costs, while offering the range and excellent payload capacity of turboprop aircraft.

For more information on SimCom’s TBM 850 and TBM 700 training programs, visit the company’s website at: [www.simulator.com](http://www.simulator.com).

## **A 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 a family-run, 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)