



News Release

ABC Taxi Aereo new EADS Socata distributor in Brazil

- High profile company will sell the Very Fast Turboprop on the largest turboprop market outside the USA



Lakeland, Florida, 18 April, 2007: During a News conference held today at the Sun'n Fun Air Show in Lakeland, Florida, Stéphane Mayer, EADS Socata's Chairman & CEO, announced the signature of a distributor's contract with ABC Taxi Aereo, already an EADS Socata's Service Center in Brazil.



Based in Uberlândia and Belo Horizonte, main airports in Minas Gerais, ABC Táxi Aéreo is a 30 years old experienced company involved in air taxi operations, maintenance of turbine and jet powered aircraft and business sales activity, with a 119 persons workforce. It is a subsidiary of Grupo Algar, a 765 million dollars annual revenue multi-activity holding company.



"We are pleased to see the confidence of such a highly respected business aviation company as ABC Aereo in the TBM aircraft. Their commitment now to develop TBM sales activity in the Brazilian market is a good signal that our very fast turboprop concept is expanding worldwide." stated Stéphane Mayer.



" After two years as a service center we are fully convinced by the overall qualities of the TBM and with the introduction of the TBM 850, we wanted to move forward our partnership in Brazil to the next level." replied Rogério Montalvão Elian, ABC Taxi Aereo's president. "The TBM 850 will hit the Brazilian market with more performance at lower operating costs and greater environmental friendliness than a comparable jet."



EADS 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 family of high-speed turboprops, TB GT piston aircraft, aerostructures for Airbus civil airliners, the A400M military transporter, Dassault Falcon jets, Eurocopter helicopters and Embraer regional jets. EADS Socata is expanding its customer service activities, to support its growing fleet of TBM and offer its light aviation expertise for aircraft below 5.7 tons through avionics modernization, maintenance, repair and overall package offers. Headquartered in Tarbes, France, with North American operations in Pembroke Pines, Florida, EADS Socata is a wholly owned subsidiary of EADS – a global leader in aerospace, defence and related services.. In 2006, EADS generated revenues of € 39.4 billion and employs a workforce of about 116,800.



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For more information, go to www.socata.eads.net