



## News release

### **A successful Brazilian demonstration tour for the TBM 850**

- The Very Fast Turboprop business aircraft enters the Brazilian market with the sale of 6 TBM 850s



**Sao Paulo, Brazil, September 3, 2007** – EADS Socata has completed a highly successful 19-day TBM 850 demonstration tour through Brazil, with an active participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Latin America Business Aviation Convention and Exhibition (LABACE) at Sao Paulo.

This tour, which followed the TBM 850 Very Fast Turboprop's certification by Brazil's Agencia Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) civil aviation agency, resulted in significant sales achievements.



ABC Táxi Aéreo – EADS Socata's Brazilian sales and service center – already has concluded the sale of two TBM 850s for deliveries in 2007 and has commitments for four TBM 850s to be delivered in 2008. These contracts represent a total value of 17 million U.S. dollars



"We are impressed by the dynamism of our Brazilian distributor, which was appointed in April and already has exceeded its sales target," stated Nicolas Chabbert, EADS Socata's Vice President of Sales and Marketing.



"Offering more performance at lower operating costs and greater environmental friendliness than a comparable jet, the TBM 850 is well suited for operations in Latin America." explained Rogério Montalvão Elian, ABC Taxi Aereo's president. "We also are benefiting from the 10% growth in Brazil's business aviation market, boosted by a dynamic economic economy – especially in the agricultural sector. This generates new transport needs for remote areas of our continent-sized country."



Launched in December 2005, the TBM 850 has received more than 100 total orders. The majority of these have been purchased by North American customers, with approximately a dozen bookings also coming from operators in Europe, Africa and the Asia-Pacific.



The 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 EADS Socata's proven six-seat TBM 700 turboprop business aircraft, the TBM 850 combines the cruising speed and journey times typical of light jets with economical direct operating costs, while offering the range and excellent weight carriage capacity of turboprop aircraft.

EADS Socata's Brazilian representative, ABC Táxi Aéreo is a company with more than 30 years of experience in air taxi operations, maintenance of turbine and jet powered aircraft and business sales activity. It has bases at Uberlândia and Belo Horizonte airport and employs 119 persons. ABC Táxi Aéreo is a subsidiary of Grupo Algar, a multi-activity holding company with \$765 million dollars in annual revenue.

### **About EADS Socata**

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 116,000.