



News Release



TBM 850 model year 2008 at EBACE

Geneva, Switzerland, May 19, 2008 – The 2008 TBM 850 is making its first appearance at the annual European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE2008), which is being held May 20-22 at Geneva's Palexpo.



For the 2008 model year, EADS Socata's popular TBM850 includes an all-glass flight deck based on the Garmin G1000 integrated flight instrument system. It replaces traditional instruments with large liquid crystal display (LCD) screens, while also integrating primary flight, navigation, weather, traffic, ground proximity and technical information – fully associated with a digital autopilot. This reduces pilot workload and eases maintenance. As a result, the TBM 850 is one of the world's most advanced light business aircraft available today.



In addition, the TBM 850's environmental and vapor control system has been replaced by the Global Air Control System from Liebherr Aerospace, which is more efficient and offers a true dual-zone temperature control – a first for an aircraft in the TBM category.



The aircraft's cabin interior has been entirely redesigned to offer more space, elegance and comfort, with a 2-inch (5-cm.) width increase and a 1-inch (2-cm.) ceiling rise, along with superb leather finishing.



The aircraft displayed at EBACE, registration N851GC, has the new standard – and very streamlined – paint scheme, which highlights the TBM 850's sleek lines and underscores its high performance.



“After a successful launch, we are convinced that the model year 2008 TBM 850 will strengthen our market position in Europe,” explained Jean-Michel Léonard, Chairman and CEO of EADS Socata. “We already have received an increased level of orders in Europe, and we look forward to supplying more aircraft to the corporate market. EBACE is an important air show for us.”



Nicolas Chabbert, EADS Socata's Vice President – Sales and Marketing, said an increasing number of leading European companies are realizing the benefit of using corporate aircraft, especially in optimizing their time to help efficiently grow their business.

“The TBM850 is the perfect aircraft for Europe, and it clearly addresses the concerns over increasing costs of operation – especially with high fuel prices.” Chabbert added. “The TBM850 is an eco-efficient and flexible way of transportation. Our presence at the 2008 EBACE is the perfect way for us to meet customers and demonstrate that the TBM850 is a great alternative to commercial travel in Europe.”

After EBACE, the model 2008 TBM 850 will travel to Germany for the ILA Berlin Air Show, which runs from May 27 to June 1. This European TBM 850 demonstration tour for is supported by record sales – with the 2008 production of 60 aircraft already sold out. Sales remain strong for 2009, with orders now being taken for the remaining production line slots in the latter part of the year.

The TBM 850 is world’s fastest single turboprop aircraft, with a maximum cruising speed of 320 KTAS at Flight Level 260 (in ISA conditions). It combines cruising speed and trip times of a light jet with the economic direct operating costs, range and moderate environmental signature of a turboprop engine. The maximum range and useful load – which are enhanced on the new model – and the ability to land at small airports are some of its customers’ favorite features.

About EADS Socata (www.socata.eads.net)

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 metric 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 group.

About EADS (www.eads.net)

EADS is a global leader in aerospace, defence and related services. In 2007, EADS generated revenues of € 39.1 billion and employed a workforce of about 116,000. The Group includes the aircraft manufacturer Airbus, the world's largest helicopter supplier Eurocopter and EADS Astrium, the European leader in space programs from Ariane to Galileo. EADS is the major partner in the Eurofighter consortium, develops the A400M through its Military Transport Aircraft Division, and holds a stake in the joint venture MBDA, the international leader in missile systems.

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TBM Program Milestones

1987: Launch of the TBM 700, first pressurized business single turboprop in partnership with Mooney Aircraft Corporation (USA) and Valmet (Finland)

1990: Certification and first customer delivery of the TBM 700

1991: TBM 700 ordered by the French Air Force for liaison duties, 20 aircraft are purchased

1992: A TBM 700 is selected as the shuttle for the International Olympics Committee at the Courchevel Mountain airport during Winter Olympics Games

1993: "Around the world in less than 80 hours" by a TBM 700 – With the crew of Jacques Lemaigre du Breuil, Nicolas Gorodiche and Olivier Waisblat

1994: Lindbergh Trophy, New York – Paris direct flight in a TBM 700 in 10 hr 54 min 41 seconds pilot: J. Lemaigre du Breuil

- French Army Aviation (ALAT) orders 5 TBM 700

- TBM 700 is the first single-engine turboprop approved for Public Transport in Canada

1997: Launch of the TBM 700B, with large door and optional pilot door

1999: TBM 700B Freighter version go-ahead; ALAT (French Army Aviation) orders 3 TBM 700Bs

2000: First civilian fleet order from Jetfly, fractional ownership operator

2001: Quest Diagnostics orders a fleet of 6 TBM 700B Freighter for medical sample transport

2003: TBM 700C2 increased maximum takeoff weight version introduced

2005: TBM 850 Launch announcement,

2006: First deliveries of the TBM 850

2007: Garmin selected to design an integrated all-glass flight deck for the TBM 850

2008: Introduction of the TBM 850 with the G1000 integrated all-glass flight deck

TBM 850 mod. 2008 New Features

Avionics: New Garmin avionics G1000, tailored for the TBM 850, true integration of technology, now replaces conventional instruments, gauges and annunciators. It reduces drastically pilot's workload and simplifies maintenance tasks.

The G1000 features two 10-inch wide Primary Flight Displays and one 15-inch Multifunction display (MFD), the largest currently fitted in a light business aircraft. The MFD screen integrates navigation, weather, traffic and terrain information as well as engine monitoring, aircraft status, and airport charts and check-lists.

Traditional gyros instruments are also replaced by two RVSM compliant Air Data Computers and two Air Horizontal Reference System (AHRS), together with a magnetic sensor. The system is completed by the GMC 710 autopilot, the industries first entirely digital autopilot.

Global Air System: The existing environmental and pressurization system of the TBM has been replaced by the Global Air System (GAS) produced by Liebherr Aerospace. It provides digital regulation of the pressurization and cabin temperature providing two independent temperate zones.

An engine driven compressor provides efficient cooling at engine start, with a 50% performance improvement over previous systems. Maintenance is eased by the use of airline industry standard components and by a built-in diagnostic system.

New cabin: The cabin of the TBM Model 2008 has been redesigned by the Catherineau company and provides a new look for the TBM while retaining its distinctly "European Flavor". New cushions and backrest shapes have been designed after intensive testing after extensive user trials.

The four main cabin side panels have been designed for quick removal and replacement to reduce maintenance costs. The new interior includes new storage compartments and large arm-rests. The passenger table folds entirely into the structure of the aircraft allowing a 2-inch increase of "elbow room". Cockpit access is easier because of seat new shape and due to a 1-inch head room increase.

SOCATA TBM 850 in figures

Powerplant	PWC PT6A-66D turboprop	
Thermodynamic power	1825 eshp	
Nominal power:	850 shp	
Usable fuel capacity:	291.6 gal	1,100 liters

Dimensions		
Overall length	34.92 ft	10.645 m
Wingspan	41.60 ft	12.680 m

Internal		
Maximum freight volume in cabin	123.6 cu. ft.	3.5 cu.m

Loading

Basic empty weight	4,589 lbs	2,081 kg
Maximum ramp weight (MRW)	7,430 lbs	3,370 kg
Maximum Takeoff weight	7,394 lbs	3,353 kg
Maximum Zero Fuel Weight	6,032 lbs	2,735 kg
Basic maximum payload	1,443 lbs	659 kg
Maximum payload with maximum fuel	849 lbs	385 kg
Maximum luggage in storage areas	297 lbs	135 kg

Performance (ISA conditions, MTOW, No wind,)

Maximum Cruising Speed	252 KTAS	467 Km/h
At long-range settings		
Maximum cruise speed	320 KTAS	593 km/h
At 26,000 ft		
Time to climb to 26,000 ft	15 min	
Time to climb to 31,000 ft	20 min	
Certified ceiling	31,000 ft	9,449 m

Distances (ISA conditions, MTOW, No wind, 50 ft obstacle clearance)

Takeoff	2,840 ft	866 m
Landing	2,430 ft	741 m
Maximum range (ISA conditions, MTOW, No wind, 45 min fuel reserve)		
At long-range settings		
With maximum fuel	1,585Nm	2,935 km
At maximum cruise speed		
With maximum fuel	1,410 Nm	2,611 km

Price (for 2009 delivery)

Standard equipped aircraft:	2 919 850 USD
Average equipped aircraft	3 082 710 USD