

NEWS RELEASE

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DAHER-SOCATA'S TB 30 Epsilon celebrates its 20th anniversary with the French Air Force "Cartouche Doré" aerobatic team

- **Military aerobatic team enters its 20th season with the DAHER-SOCATA piston-engine trainer**

Cognac, France, June 11, 2009 – This month marks the 20th anniversary of the French Air Force's "Cartouche Doré" aerobatic team, which has operated with the DAHER-SOCATA's TB 30 Epsilon piston engine trainer since its creation two decades ago at the Cognac air base.

The "Cartouche Doré" is one of three official French Air Force display teams, and it participates in approximately 30 air shows each year. Its establishment at Air Base 709 in Cognac, France on June 2, 1989 was in honor of the TB 30 Epsilon's 100,000 flight hour milestone. The team was formed by the 315 Training School, which subsequently became the French Air Force's flight school.

DAHER-SOCATA produced the TB 30 Epsilon at its Tarbes, France factory, and the company provides logistics, engineering follow-up and maintenance for the aircraft in French Air Force service.

"We are proud to celebrate to celebrate the 20 years of existence for this aerobatic team, which has provided exciting flight demonstrations for the public – inspiring the start of many aviation careers," said DAHER-SOCATA President François Lépinoy. "As a pilot myself, I congratulate the talent and skill of the Cognac flight school instructors who operate the TB 30 Epsilon – and serve as ambassadors for this DAHER-SOCATA aircraft."

The TB 30 Epsilon is a tandem two-seat military trainer, which is equipped with a retractable landing gear and a constant-speed propeller. Designed to French Air Force specifications as a highly maneuverable ab-initio trainer, the TB 30 Epsilon entered operational service in 1983. In addition to its use by the French military, the aircraft also has equipped the Portuguese Air Force and the Togo Air Force.

A total of 174 TB 30 Epsilons were built by DAHER-SOCATA between 1983 and 1989.

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 exclusively 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.

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