



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **DAHER-SOCATA Scores High Marks in *Professional Pilot* Magazine's Annual Product Support Survey**

**Tarbes, France, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009:** DAHER-SOCATA has received top-level rankings in *Professional Pilot* magazine's annual Corporate Aircraft Product Support Survey – securing first and second positions in the turboprop category, as well as receiving praise from the publication's editorial staff.

The company and its TBM-series aircraft were rated second in the Overall ranking, and secured first place in the Turboprop category for the quality of its technical representatives. The survey includes six other categories, and DAHER-SOCATA was positioned in second place for four of these: Service Satisfaction (8.22/10), Technical Manuals (8.11/10), Speed in AOG Service (7.63/10) and Company Response Time (8.26/10).

In its survey introduction, the *Professional Pilot* editorial staff acknowledged the TBM fleet's product support emphasis that has come with the ownership changeover to DAHER-SOCATA. "DAHER appears to have pumped up new energy and customer focus into TBM," the magazine's survey introduction stated. "The steady rise from 4<sup>th</sup> in 2007 to 2<sup>nd</sup> in 09 is impressive and not easy to do."

*Professional Pilot's* yearly product support review is considered one of the industry's most viable surveys. Each survey form is filled out in the recipient's own handwriting, and includes the name, ratings and other key information for the respondents.

"This survey has been a reference in corporate aircraft support for 20 years, and we are proud to have been well rated by our operators," said Nicolas Chabbert, Executive Vice President of DAHER-SOCATA's Aircraft Division. "Of particular importance was the recognition of our improved TBM 850 support, which is being well received by users around the world. We also were impressed by the high response rate from TBM 700 and TBM 850 operators to the *Professional Pilot* survey, representing 68 of the 434 responses from all operators of turboprop aircraft – with generally positive comments."

*Professional Pilot* is a monthly journal that has been published continuously since 1967 for the corporate aviation sector – including pilots, managers and dispatchers. Its editorial content includes articles on pilot techniques, airmanship, operations, weather, reader surveys, helicopters airplanes and avionics.

The TBM 850 is available via DAHER-SOCATA's existing direct sales and distribution network, and is supported by its extensive worldwide system of service centers. Since its launch in 2005, the TBM 850 has become an international success – with more than 200 aircraft sold, and 164 delivered to date to customers around the globe.

As the world's fastest single-engine turboprop, the TBM 850 has a maximum cruise speed of 320 kts. at 26,000 ft. (in ISA conditions). It is an 850-shp. version of SOCATA's proven six-seat TBM 700 turboprop business aircraft, and combines the cruising speed and travel times typical of light jets with highly economical direct operating costs, while offering the range and excellent payload capacity of a turboprop aircraft.

### **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 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)