

EASA APPROVES EMBRAER'S SOROCABA SERVICE CENTER

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Embraer's business aircraft service center in Sorocaba, Brazil, this week received certification from the European Aviation Safety Agency covering maintenance for the airframer's entire business jet family. The important approval, which adds to the blessing already conferred by Brazil's ANAC agency, came just before the second anniversary of the opening of the 21,500-sq-ft facility at Bertram Luiz Leupolz near São Paulo and is expected to be supplemented by FAA certification around halfway through this year.

The Brazilian airframer also operates a full-service FBO at the airport. Maintenance operations account for around half of the site's 215,278 sq ft of hangar space. Embraer also has a service center for its Lineage, Legacy and Phenom jets at its São Jose dos Campos headquarters, supporting a Brazil-based fleet of a around 200 aircraft.

Sorocaba has become the prime business aviation hub for São Paulo-bound traffic as space is limited at the city's main airport, Guarulhos International, and at other local airports such as Congonhas and Campo de Marte. Service centers for Gulfstream and Dassault Falcon are also located at Sorocaba.

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