



# 3,000TH CESSNA CARAVAN FAMILY AIRCRAFT JOINS AZUL CONECTA AIRLINE FLEET IN BRAZIL

News / Airlines, Manufacturer



**Brazilian Azul Conecta took delivery of a Cessna Grand Caravan EX. This aircraft represents the 3,000th Cessna Caravan family turboprop delivered worldwide, reinforcing the Caravan as the most popular utility turboprop in the world. Azul Conecta transports travelers from smaller cities and remote locations throughout Brazil. Textron Aviation employees and representatives from Azul Conecta celebrated this significant milestone with a special delivery ceremony at Textron Aviation’s location in Independence, Kansas.**

Lannie O’Bannon, senior vice president of Sales and Flight Operations at Textron Aviation, commented: “The Cessna Caravan’s versatility and reliability have made it the most popular aircraft in the utility turboprop category, with now 3,000 delivered globally. I’m thankful to customers like Azul Conecta who continuously rely on the Caravan family of aircraft to fulfill their missions, deliver solutions and improve lives around the world.”

Flavio Costa, chief technical officer of Azul and president of Azul Conecta, said: “This Grand

Caravan EX will proudly fly the Brazilian skies and connect our 158 destinations, many of which are made possible by the aircraft's utility and flexibility. As a longtime Textron Aviation customer with a fleet of over 25 Cessna aircraft, we are happy to be a part of this important milestone."

Conceived as a rugged utility aircraft with low operating costs, the Caravan was designed for use in remote areas with extreme weather changes, mountainous terrain and rough landing conditions. The aircraft's versatility became renowned in all corners of the world, and the Caravan continues to see wide use in global markets by a variety of customers, including government agencies, law enforcement and militaries, air ambulance operators, freight haulers, corporations and humanitarian organizations. Customers can choose between four models of the Cessna Caravan aircraft to best fit their mission: the Caravan 208, the Grand Caravan EX 208B, the Caravan Amphibian and the Grand Caravan EX Amphibian.



### **Cessna Caravan program milestones**

- 1981 Cessna launched the Caravan program
- 1982 First flight of Caravan 208 prototype
- 1984 Caravan 208 received FAA type certification
- 1985 Cessna began deliveries of the Caravan 208
- 1985 Caravan 208 approved for amphibious floats
- 1986 Caravan 208B Super Cargomaster, stretched by four feet in a freight specific

*configuration, received FAA type certification*

- 1990 First production Grand Caravan 208B delivered
- 1998 Delivery of 1,000th production Caravan 208
- 1998 Cessna began deliveries of the new standard Caravan 208, a Caravan 208 that

*features a Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A-114A engine rated at 675 shaft horsepower*

- 2002 Delivery of 1,000th Grand Caravan 208B

- 2005 Delivery of 1,500th production Cessna 208
- 2008 Garmin G1000 becomes standard avionics equipment
- 2008 TKS ice protection offered
- 2013 Cessna began deliveries of Grand Caravan EX 208B, featuring a Pratt & Whitney

*Canada PT6A-140 engine rated at 867 shaft horsepower*

- 2017 G1000 NXi becomes standard on Caravan and Grand Caravan EX
- 2022 3,000th Caravan, a Grand Caravan EX, delivered to Azul Conecta

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