

## **KC-390 Millennium and Gripen E successfully complete refueling certification flights**

- Partnership between Saab and Embraer strengthens technological and operational integration between two strategic assets of the Brazilian Air Force (FAB)
- *Air-to-air refueling allows both aircraft to expand their capabilities in the international market*

**Gavião Peixoto, Brazil, November 14, 2025** - Embraer (NYSE: EMBJ/ B3: EMBJ3), a global leader in the aerospace industry, and Saab, in cooperation with the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), have successfully completed the certification flight test campaign for in-flight refuelling of the Gripen E fighter by the KC-390 Millennium multi-mission aircraft.

Conducted at Embraer's facilities in Gavião Peixoto, São Paulo, where the Gripen Flight Test Centre is located, the campaign was coordinated by the Department of Aerospace Science and Technology (DCTA) from the FAB, and brought together engineers and test pilots from Saab, Embraer and the FAB. During the tests, a range of flight configurations, speeds and altitudes were evaluated and confirmed precision during in-flight refuelling. Both aircraft's latest-generation fly-by-wire systems contributed to the successful operation, with the KC-390 providing a favourable wake and the Gripen demonstrating responsiveness in flight.

The flight test campaign consisted of two objectives. The first involved qualifying the Gripen E as a receiver for in-flight refuelling — a key step in validating the fighter's performance, stability, and structural integrity throughout the operation. The second focused on verifying the compatibility of both aircraft across the KC-390's entire flight envelope, for high-speed refuelling under both day and night conditions. The in-flight refuelling of Gripen E by the KC-390 further enhances interoperability between these two highly advanced, latest-generation aircraft.

"This important milestone confirms the KC-390 unmatched qualities as a tanker and further strengthens our partnership with Saab and the Brazilian Air Force. Additionally, the unique multi-mission capability offered by the KC-390, which allows the airplane to be converted into a tanker in a matter of hours, offers unbeatable flexibility to Air Forces worldwide," said Walter Pinto Júnior, Chief Operations Officer of Embraer Defense & Security.

"This achievement reflects the high level of integration between the teams involved. The verification of in-flight refuelling is a very significant technical milestone for our business, as it demonstrates that Gripen E has reached a new level of operational reach. The success of this campaign further reinforces the strategic partnership between Brazil and Sweden and Brazil's role within the global Gripen programme ecosystem," said Mikael Olsson, Head of Flight Testing at Saab.

"The verification of in-flight refuelling between the KC-390 and F-39 Gripen represents the success of a cooperation that goes beyond borders. It is the result of a joint effort combining Swedish technology, Brazilian engineering and the operational excellence

of the Brazilian Air Force,” concluded Colonel Aviator George Luiz Guedes de Oliveira.

The Swedish Military Aviation Authority (SE-MAA) will now be able to review the verification evidence for the air-to-air refueling capability of Gripen E as part of its certification process. This will be followed by the certification process conducted by the Industrial Promotion and Coordination Institute (IFI) of the FAB. These institutions are responsible for the technical analysis and validation of results, ensuring that both aircraft comply with the most demanding international standards.

Named Operation Samaúma by the FAB, this test campaign involved around 40 military personnel and places Brazil among the few countries capable of developing, testing and fully verifying in-flight refuelling systems using national technology.

**Images:** <https://embraer.bynder.com/share/1C89580B-3284-4FF5-9B08945FBEBB413F/>

### **About Embraer**

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Since its foundation in 1969, Embraer has delivered more than 9,000 aircraft. On average, every 10 seconds, an aircraft manufactured by Embraer takes off from somewhere in the world, transporting more than 150 million passengers annually.

Embraer is a leading manufacturer of commercial jets up to 150 seats and the main exporter of high value-added goods in Brazil. The company maintains industrial units, offices, service centers and parts distribution, among other activities, in the Americas, Africa, Asia and Europe.