



Paratroopers from the French military's School of Airborne Troops (ETAP) have performed training jumps from Héli-Béarn's Kodiak 100.

Daher's multi-mission Kodiak 100 aircraft will deploy paratroopers to test military parachutes for France's defense procurement agency

Tarbes, France, December 22, 2021 – Héli-Béarn, the first operator of Daher's Kodiak 100 multi-mission aircraft in France, has been contracted by the country's defense procurement agency to perform paratroop drops that will test and validate parachute systems for the French armed forces.

This contract was awarded by the aeronautical techniques expert center of France's General Directorate of Armament (DGA-AT), and it covers the rental of a Héli-Béarn Kodiak 100 for a period of five years at the rate of 200 flight hours annually.

"The contract acknowledges our Kodiak 100's multi-mission efficiency and performance, as well as the quality of Héli-Béarn's flight operations," said Nicolas Chabbert, the Senior Vice President of Daher's Aircraft Division. "It also represents another DGA recognition of Daher's products and services. We have performed operational support maintenance for the DGA's TBM 700 very fast aircraft during nearly 30 years, along with avionics modernization on its helicopters. More recently, the DGA ordered a fleet of four new TBM 940s for its support and training missions – with all of these aircraft now delivered."

Héli-Béarn operates two Kodiak 100s, both of which entered service with the company earlier this year in southwestern France. One of them is equipped for the deployment of paratroopers, and it already has logged nearly 200 flight hours while performing some 600 rotations for civilian skydiving centers in France.

The Kodiak 100 to be used in parachute testing for French armed forces

The Héli-Béarn Kodiak 100 also has welcomed students from the French military's School of Airborne Troops (ETAP), which trains paratroopers for the country's armed forces and its Gendarmerie national police force.

Based at Pau-Pyrenees airport, Héli-Béarn performs transportation and aerial work with both fixed-wing airplanes and helicopters, while also providing aviation maintenance, training and consulting services.

Daher's Kodiak 100 is utilized for special missions worldwide, benefitting from the airplane's ability to operate from uneven and unimproved runways, as well as on water with floats. In the paradrop configuration, the Kodiak 100 can be equipped with a sliding door and accommodates up to 15 paratroops/skydivers.

About Daher – www.daher.com

Daher is an aircraft manufacturer and an industry and service equipment supplier. Daher asserts its leadership in three main businesses: aircraft manufacturing, aerospace equipment and systems, logistics and supply chain services; and achieved a turnover of 1.1 billion euros in 2020. With the stability provided by its family ownership, Daher has been committed to innovation since its creation in 1863. Today, present in 13 countries, Daher is a leader in Industry 4.0, designing and developing value-added solutions for its industrial partners.

Daher also is on social networks:



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About Daher's aircraft product line – www.kodiak.aero / www.tbm.aero

Daher manufactures two families of single-engine turboprop airplanes: the Kodiak utility aircraft in Sandpoint, Idaho, USA, and the very fast pressurized TBM in Tarbes, France.

The Kodiak 100 Series III is an unpressurized 8-10-seat airplane equipped with Garmin's G1000 NXi avionics, capable of operating on uneven and unimproved runways, or on water in the amphibious version. Its unique combination of robust construction and remarkable 3,530 lb. useful load has resulted in many additional applications for the Kodiak, including special missions, medevac, as a skydiving platform and more.

Current TBM models in production are the TBM 910, equipped with Garmin's G1000 Nxi avionics system, controlled by a keypad; and the TBM 940, featuring Garmin's G3000 avionics with touchscreen controller, an autothrottle and the HomeSafe™ emergency autoland system. Both models offer increased automation and superior performance – a maximum cruise speed of 330 kts. – and high efficiency with a 1,730-naut. mi. maximum range and a fuel consumption of 37 U.S. gallons per hour at economy cruise.

As of November 30, 2021, a total of 300 Kodiak and 1,060 TBM aircraft have been delivered to international owners and operators, with the global fleet accumulating some 2.2 million flight hours.



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