# Building a Multinational KC-390 Community:

## Interoperability, Training and Operational Readiness



**Colonel Paulo “HULK” MARTINS**

Chief of Operations Division

Portuguese Air Force

# AGENDA

PORTUGAL'S KC-390 TRANSITION

OPERATIONAL READINESS & TRAINING

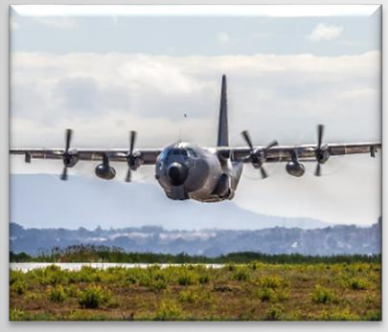
MULTIROLE OPERATIONS & AIR-TO-AIR REFUELLING

COMBINED TRAINING & OPERATIONAL TESTING

EUROPEAN KC-390 COMMUNITY & COLLECTIVE READINESS

*"THE ABILITY TO GENERATE OPERATIONAL EFFECT TOGETHER WILL DETERMINE THE COMMUNITY'S REAL VALUE"*

# PORTUGAL'S TRANSITION TO KC-390 FLEET - THREE YEARS OF LEARNING



1977-

**C-130H**



2009-

**C-295M**



2023 -

**(K)C-390**

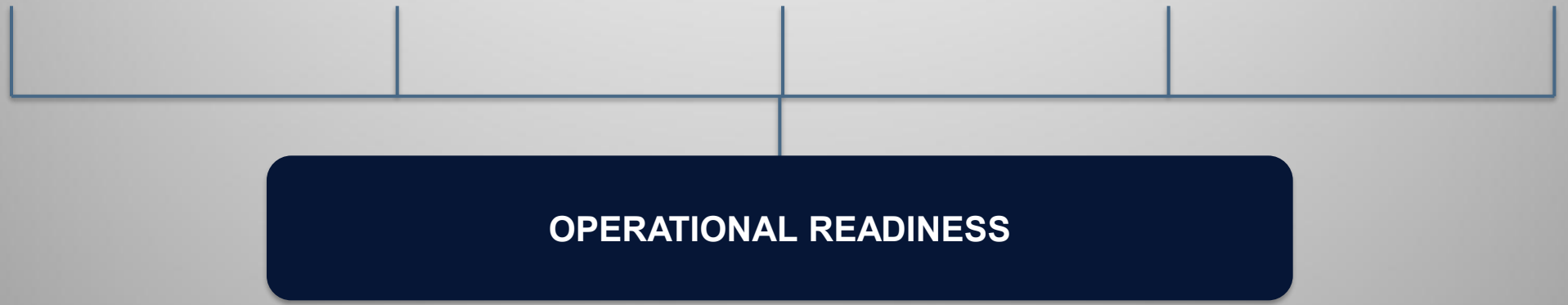
| Oct 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Entry into service<br>First MEDEVAC | 2nd Aircraft,<br>Airdrop and Logistic Missions | 3rd Aircraft,<br>FFMS,<br>Exercises | 4th Aircraft<br>AAR-development<br>EW OT&E |

**+ 4.400 Flight Hours reported till October 2026**

*"EVERY LESSON LEARNED STRENGTHENS THE CAPABILITY WE BUILD TOGETHER"*

# OPERATIONAL READINESS IS AN ECOSYSTEM

| AIRCRAFT | PEOPLE | TRAINING | SUSTAINMENT | PROCEDURES |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mission systems | Crews and maintainers | Instructors and practice | Maintenance and logistics | TTPs and approvals |




*"READINESS DEPENDS ON EVERY PART OF THE MISSION WORKING TOGETHER"deixei nas Gootnotes o*

# PEOPLE FIRST - TRAINING AS THE FOUNDATION OF READINESS

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **PILOTS** | Ground school and procedures | Simulator and basic flight | Advanced training | Instructor training |
| **LOADMASTERS** | Systems familiarisation | Simulator training | Cargo handling | Ramp practice |
| **MAINTAINERS** | EMAR Cat A | EMAR B1 | EMAR B2 | Practical competence |
| **INSTRUCTORS** | Standardisation | Recurrent training | Capability growth | |

*"OUR PEOPLE TURN AIRCRAFT CAPABILITY INTO OPERATIONAL READINESS"*

# A MULTINATIONAL TRAINING ECOSYSTEM

**KC-390 TRAINING CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

## SYNTHETIC TRAINING

Classrooms and CBT

Briefing and debriefing

Full Flight Mission Simulator

## LIVE TRAINING

Aircraft-based practice

Mission qualification

**MULTINATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

FFMS ready for training since 2025

*"SHARED TRAINING BUILDS THE CONFIDENCE TO OPERATE TOGETHER"*

# FROM MULTIROLE AIRCRAFT TO OPERATIONAL EFFECT

MEDEVAC







AAR

HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT

VERSATILITY







TACTICAL AIRLIFT



OPERATIONAL EFFECT

QUALIFICATION vs READINESS

# AIR-TO-AIR REFUELLING: BUILDING THE CAPABILITY



Future ?



HIGH SPEED Drogue



LOW SPEED Drogue

**Roadmap: receiver clearance with defined scope and limits with interested partners.**

# TRAIN TOGETHER TO OPERATE TOGETHER

NATAL - BRASIL

**CRUZEX**

BEJA - PORTUGAL

**NTM**

BEJA - PORTUGAL

**ETAP-C**

EINDHOVEN – NL

**FALCON LEAP**

USA

**ATAC**

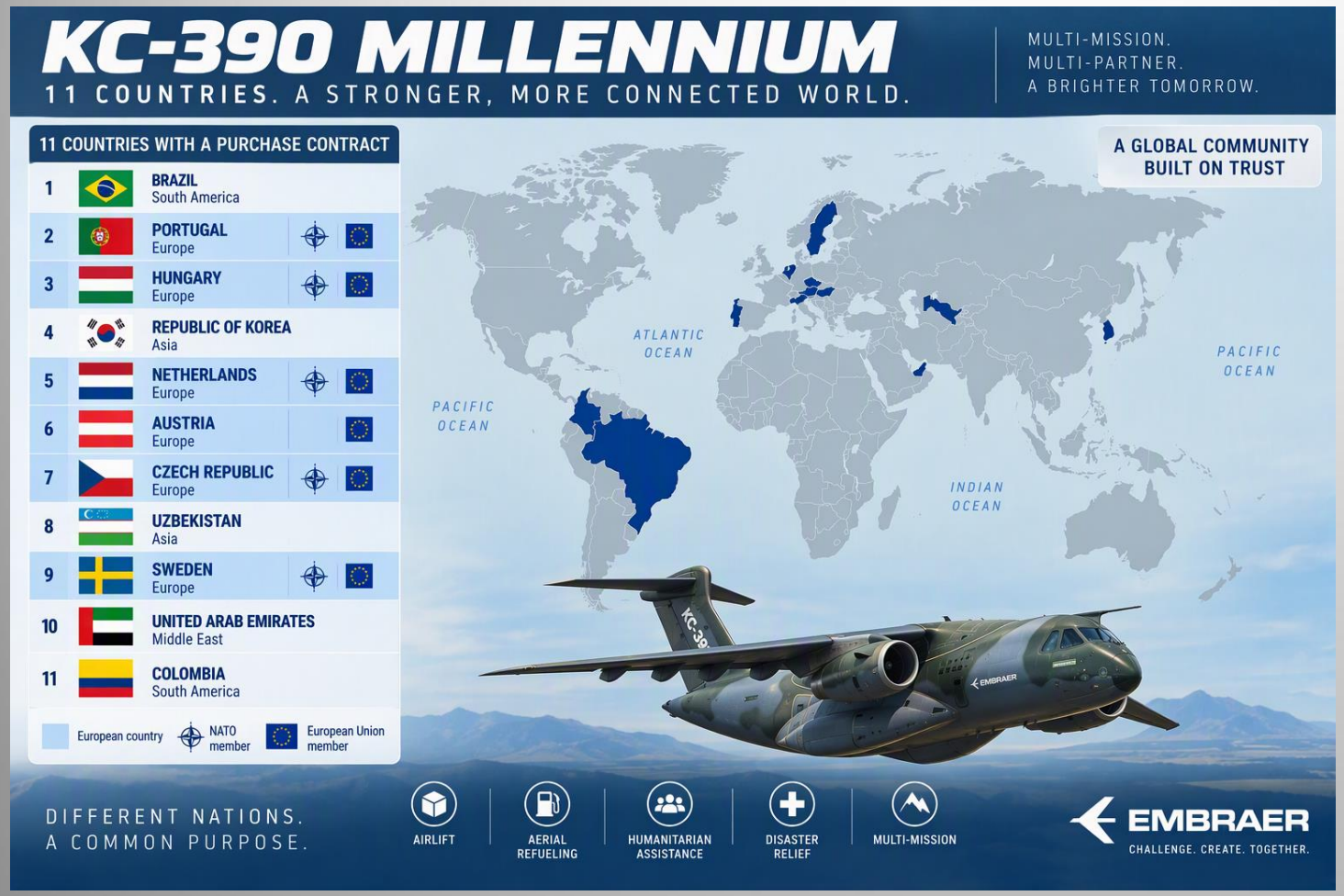
## OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION

## X-PARA CERTIFICATIONA

## RECEIVERS PAIRING

*"EVERY EXERCISE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN TOGETHER AND IMPROVE HOW WE OPERATE"*

# A EUROPEAN KC-390 COMMUNITY IS EMERGING




**Portugal is cooperating on training with:**

**NETHERLANDS**

**HUNGARY**

**AUSTRIA**

**Other TA's ongoing…**

**Portugal is cooperating on EW with SWEDEN**

*"THE MILLENNIUM FAMILY IS GROWING. THE FOUNDATIONS ARE IN PLACE, AND COOPERATION IS ALREADY UNDER WAY"*

# FROM COMMON AIRCRAFT TO COLLECTIVE READINESS

COMMONALITY — INTEROPERABILITY — READINESS — **OPERATIONAL EFFECT**

## MUTUAL TRUST

Build lasting relationships and speak openly

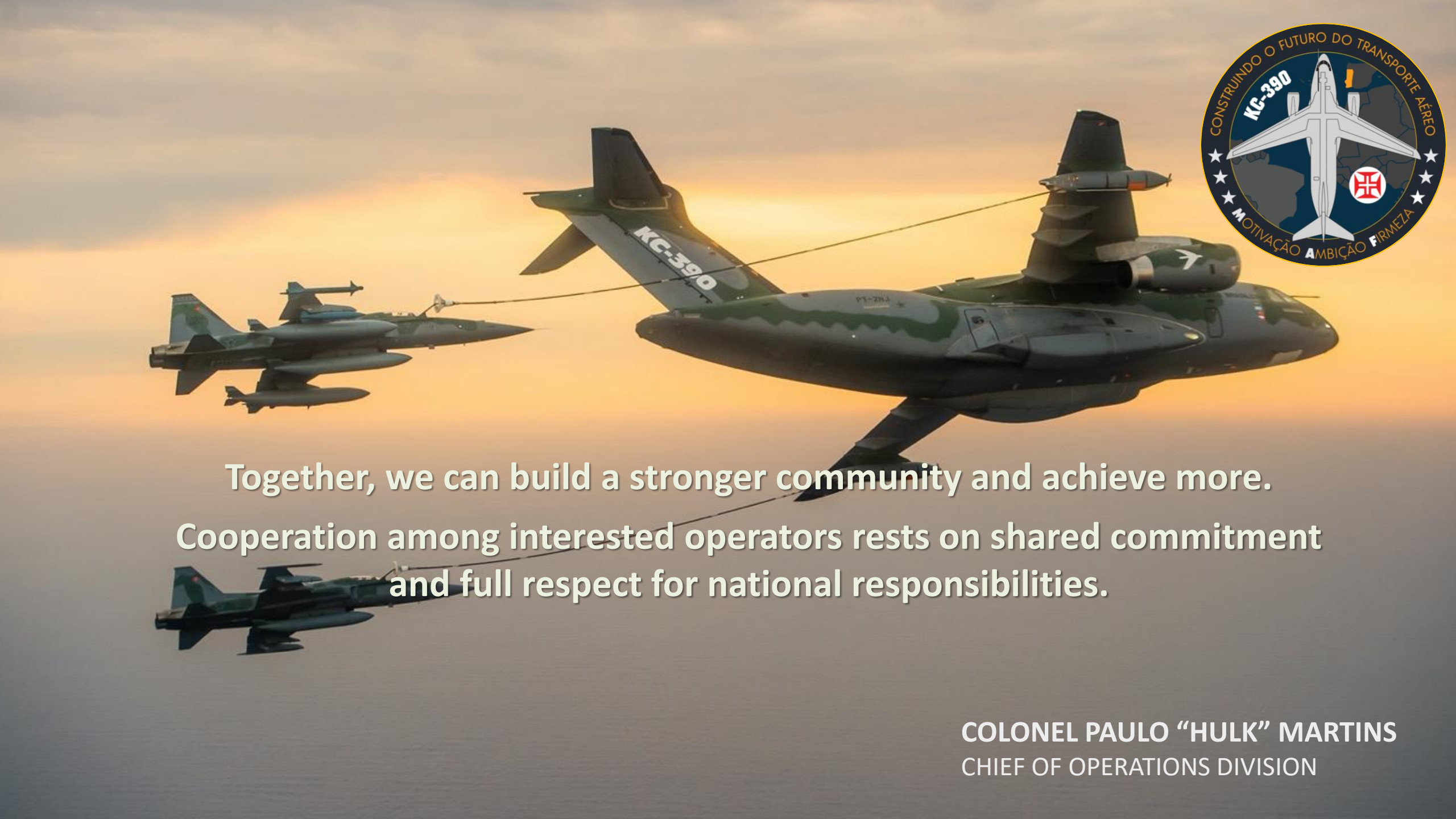
## SHARED PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Share challenges and lessons learned

## NATIONAL CONTEXT

Adapt solutions to each nation's needs and constraints

*"THE PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE STANDS COMMITTED TO THIS SHARED VISION AND TO THE PARTNERS WHO WILL SHAPE IT WITH US"*




**Together, we can build a stronger community and achieve more.**

**Cooperation among interested operators rests on shared commitment and full respect for national responsibilities.**

**COLONEL PAULO “HULK” MARTINS**
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS DIVISION