HYNAERO and Helibravo Aviação Sign MoU to Support the FREGATE-F100 Firefighting Aircraft Programme

October 15, 2026 — HYNAERO, a French aerospace company developing the FREGATE-F100 amphibious water bomber, and Helibravo Aviação, a Portuguese aviation services company, today announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a framework for cooperation in support of the FREGATE-F100 programme.

The partnership combines HYNAERO's aircraft development expertise with Helibravo's operational experience and knowledge of the Portuguese and Iberian aviation markets. Together, the companies aim to help advance next-generation aerial firefighting capabilities in response to the growing wildfire threat across Europe and beyond.

A New Generation of Aerial Firefighting

The FREGATE-F100 is the next-generation amphibious firefighting aircraft designed to meet the evolving needs of private and institutional operators. With a **target water-scooping capacity of 10 tons and a cruising speed of 250 knots**, it aims to strengthen firefighting capabilities and support the renewal of ageing fleets. The programme also seeks to reinforce European industrial and technological sovereignty in the strategic field of aerial firefighting.

Under the MoU, HYNAERO and Helibravo will explore opportunities to support the programme's development, market positioning and future operational relevance in Portugal, the Iberian Peninsula and international markets.

Beyond its operational ambitions, the FREGATE-F100 programme is expected to support **more than 2,500 jobs** across the final assembly facility and wider supply chain, contributing to skilled employment and the development of European aerospace capabilities.

Statements from the Partners

Duarte Bravo, Chief Executive Officer of Helibravo Aviação, said:

"We are pleased to partner with HYNAERO to advance aerial firefighting capabilities at a time when wildfire risks are increasing across Portugal and the Mediterranean. The FREGATE-F100 has the potential to make a significant contribution to the future of aerial firefighting. By combining our operational and market expertise with HYNAERO's aircraft development capabilities, we aim to help bring this ambitious programme closer to the needs of operators."

David Pincet, Founding Partner and President of HYNAERO, said:

"Helibravo's aviation expertise and knowledge of the Portuguese and Iberian markets are valuable assets for the FREGATE-F100 programme. This cooperation strengthens our understanding of operators' needs and reinforces our shared commitment to developing modern aerial firefighting capabilities. Our ambition is to address urgent operational challenges while building a strong European industrial capability in this strategic field."

About HYNAERO

HYNAERO is a French aerospace company developing the FREGATE-F100, a next-generation amphibious water bomber designed for private and institutional operators facing the growing threat of major wildfires.

The programme aims to deliver a modern, high-performance firefighting solution while strengthening European capabilities in aerial forest firefighting and supporting industrial development across France, Italy and other European partner countries.

For more information, visit www.hynaero.com.

About Helibravo Aviação

Helibravo Aviação is a Portuguese aviation services company with experience in aviation critical operations and a focus on professional service delivery. Through its cooperation with HYNAERO, the company aims to contribute its critical operational expertise and market knowledge to the development of advanced aerial firefighting capabilities in Portugal, the Iberian Peninsula and international markets.

For more information, visit www.helibravo.com