

# FAMEX 2017



## Down Mexico way !

From 26 to 29 April 2017 the second edition of the *Feria Aeroespacial México* (FAMEX) was held at Base Aérea Militar No. 1 Santa Lucía to the north of Mexico City. With over 550 exhibitors, the event has almost doubled in size compared to the first edition in 2015. The official inauguration of the event was on 26 April 2017, with President Enrique Peña Nieto, President of the Republic of Mexico, confirming importance of the show for the Mexican Government. As Rodolfo Rodríguez Quezada, President of the FAMEX stated: “The goal of the event is to bring together the most important

aerospace companies to promote and support Mexico’s aerospace industry. FAMEX aims to become a business centre for the exchange of technology and services and become a platform to support Mexico’s penetration into the sector.” The Mexican Air Force (FAM) participated majorly in the event to support these goals.

### Static display

The static display consisted mainly of modern types active within the different branches of the Defence Forces: The Air Force, Navy and *Policía Federal*. Besides that, the Air Force museum provided some

static assets while Aero México showed both their oldest as well as their latest aircraft. The only foreign military participant was an A400M from the Spanish Air Force.

Unfortunately, there were no fighter displays at FAMEX 2017, whereas the 2015 edition had included some F-5 formation flying. Contrary to recent reports that the type was withdrawn from service in September 2016, the F-5 still soldiers on in Mexican service. Of eight F-5s with Escuadrón Aéreo 401 at Santa Lucía Air Base, four are still operational while the other four are awaiting refurbished engines from RUAG, the Swiss company. No