

# ARIZONA BUSINESS GAZETTE

## Brazil-based company opens hangar at Mesa airport

[Embraer's facility will service line of executive jets](#)

by **Art Thomason** - Oct. 16, 2008 12:00 AM  
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While the banking industry has been tumbling of late, the product of a long-term investment by a Brazilian-based commercial jet manufacturer is taking a bow at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport.

Embraer's opening of its 47,700-square-foot service and maintenance hangar - about half the size of a supermarket - for the company's extensive line of executive jets expands the airport's international presence, Mesa Mayor Scott Smith said.

"Embraer's area here is North America, Canada and Mexico, but it will service jets from anybody flying from anywhere else," he said.

The hangar represents the type of long-term investment that will ride out the current bad economic cycle, Smith said. "It's meant to be there for decades, not months and years. It's not totally governed by the short-term (economic) cycle."

Embraer, one of Brazil's leading exporters, invested \$10 million in the facility, which consists of a hangar, workshops and office space for 60 employees. Many of the positions will be created over the next five years.

The hangar is part of the executive-jets service-center network owned and operated by Embraer in the United States that will soon include locations at Hollywood International Airport, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; and Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks, Conn., Embraer officials said. By the end of the year, Embraer will have seven wholly owned and 38 authorized service centers worldwide.

The company is the world's largest manufacturer of commercial jets up to 120 seats.

"This is exactly the type of company we want at the airport and in our community - a globally-recognized aerospace leader with a track record of success," Smith said.