

Photo Release

MILITARY AIRCRAFT

Airbus C295 successfully performs wet contacts as a tanker [@AirbusDefence](#) [#C295](#) [#AAR](#)



Getafe, 29th January 2020 – The Airbus C295 tactical airlifter has successfully achieved its first wet contacts during an air-to-air (AAR) tanker flight test campaign. First dry contacts of this flight test took place in December 2019 and were achieved using a closed ramp configuration, 100ft hose and remote vision system. The wet contacts, conducted out of Seville, Spain, took place in January 2020, between one Airbus C295 aircraft in tanker configuration and a Spanish Air Force C295 acting as receiver at flight speeds between 100-130 knots.

In total, the aircraft fitted with the removable AAR kit, performed five wet contacts transferring a total 1.5 tons of fuel. Tests were conducted in day-light conditions.

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Captain Gabiña, the Spanish Air Force pilot who participated on the test campaign, said: 'The degree of difficulty in flight test is always high since it involves performing manoeuvres that no one has done before. It should be noted that due to the positive behaviour of the aircraft, the operation has been good and straight forward'.

The flight test campaign also included night flight operations and the successful proximity test in pre-contact position with a Spanish Air Force F18 fighter at a flight speed of 210 knots.

The successful tests will expand the C295's trademark versatility for tactical operations to include refuelling missions for helicopters, transport and fighter aircraft.

Caption 1: *The image above shows the two C295s aircraft successfully performing AAR wet contacts.*

Caption 2: *The image shows the proximity tests between a C295 and Spanish Air Force F18 fighter.*

About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2018 it generated revenues of € 64 billion and employed a workforce of around 134,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide

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