

Yevgeny Prigozhin plane crash: Embraer Legacy 600 jet had good safety record, say reports

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An Embraer logo is pictured during the European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE) in Geneva, Switzerland, May 23, 2022. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse/File Photo Acquire Licensing Rights

Aug 23 (Reuters) - The Embraer executive jet model that crashed in Russia, apparently with Wagner mercenary chief Yevgeny Prigozhin on board, has only recorded one accident in more than 20 years of service, and that was not related to mechanical failure.

Russian authorities said Prigozhin was listed as a passenger on a private jet that crashed on Wednesday evening, killing all those on board. Russia's TASS news agency said the plane was a Brazilian Embraer jet.

Embraer (EMBR3.SA) said it was aware of a plane crash in Russia involving a Legacy 600 aircraft, but it did not have further information about the case and had not been providing support services for the jet since 2019.

"Embraer has complied with international sanctions imposed on Russia," the planemaker said. Sanctions block Western planemakers from providing parts or support for planes operated in Russia.

Flightradar24 online tracker showed that the Embraer Legacy 600 (plane number RA-02795) said to be carrying Prigozhin had dropped off the radar at 6:11 p.m. local time (1511 GMT). An unverified video on social media showed a plane resembling a private jet falling out of the sky toward the earth.

The aircraft, manufactured in 2007, fell under U.S. Treasury sanctions in 2019 when it was listed under a prior registration, M-SAAN, according to a U.S. government press release.

It said that by October 2018, Prigozhin's employees had arranged for the purchase of the private jet M-SAAN, which was registered under the owner Autolex Transport, a company cited in the release for materially assisting Prigozhin.

The U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) took action against Prigozhin for attempting to influence the U.S. 2018 elections, the Sept. 30, 2019 release said.

The identification codes of the aircraft, mentioned in OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals And Blocked Persons List (SDN List) match those of the crashed plane with the tail number RA-02795 as listed in the Russian Aircraft Registry.

The same plane was spotted flying to Belarus from Russia after the failed mutiny in late June, presumably carrying Prigozhin to Minsk.

The owner of the crashed jet, according to the Federal Agency for Air Transport (Rosaviatsiya), was a Russian firm MNT-Aero which was added to the SDN list under its old name Alkon in April 2021 due to links to Prigozhin.

It changed the name to MNT Aero five days after sanctions were imposed, and its co-owners Kirill Shcherbakov and Artem Stepanov, also both on the SDN list, sold the firm to Olga Gubareva in September 2022. Gubareva, Shcherbakov and Stepanov did not respond to Reuters' questions.



JETPHOTOS
Inilah gambar Embraer EMB- 135BJ Legacy 600 dengan registrasi negara Slovenia S5-ABL, sebelum dimiliki oleh Wagner Group, pesawat ini kemudian berganti menjadi registrasi Rusia RA-02795 (jetphotos).

The Legacy 600 entered service in 2002, according to International Aviation HQ, with almost 300 produced until production ceased in 2020.

There is only one recorded accident involving a Legacy 600, according to International Aviation HQ, which occurred in 2006 when one crashed mid-air into a Gol (GOLL4.SA) Boeing 737-800 on its way from the Embraer factory in Brazil to the United States.

The Boeing commercial airliner was downed and all 154 passengers killed. The pilot of the Embraer plane landed it without any deaths or injuries aboard that aircraft.

Two years later, a Brazilian air force report blamed two U.S. pilots, traffic controllers and faulty communications for the mid-air collision.

At the time, a lawyer for the pilots said individual air traffic controllers and flaws in Brazil's air traffic control system caused the accident.

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Sumber: Reuters

Catatan dari Redaksi:

OPERATOR HISTORY							
REG	AIRCRAFT TYPE	AIRLINE / COMPANY	DELIVERED	CONFIG	ENGINES	HEX CODE	REMARKS
S5-ABL	Embraer ERJ-135	 Linair	Oct 2007	VIP	2x RR	506C0E	
OE-IFF	Embraer ERJ-135	 International Jet Management	Sep 2015	VIP	2x RR	440839	
 VSR	Embraer ERJ-135	 MNG Jet	Oct 2017	VIP	2x RR	4BDA72	
M-SAAN	Embraer ERJ-135	Autolex Transport	Nov 2018	VIP	2x RR	424B32	
RA-02795	Embraer ERJ-135	Wagner Group	Sep 2020	VIP	2x RR	140AEB	Crashed 23 Aug 2023 over the Tver region of Russia, killing all occupants on board

Jenis pesawat bizjet ini dikenal memiliki catatan rekor keselamatan baik. Jenis EMB- 135BJ Legacy 600 mulai dipergunakan (enter in service) tahun 2002. Pesawat jenis ini mengalami tabrakan di udara dengan pesawat B737-800 milik maskapai Gol Linhas Aéreas Inteligentes S.A dari Brasil dengan nomor penerbangan GLO 1907 pada 29 September 2006. Pesawat Embraer dalam kejadian tubrukan di udara ini hanya mengalami kerusakan dan masih bisa mendarat dengan selamat tanpa ada korban jiwa. Sebaliknya, 154 penumpang pesawat GLO 1907 meninggal dunia dan hanya 7 yang selamat. Sejak dibuat oleh pabriknya, Embraer Brazil pada 2007 (berusia 16 tahun) RA-02795 tidak pernah mengalami kegagalan dalam bentuk accident. Sejak embargo diberlakukan terhadap Rusia oleh blok Barat yang diakibatkan oleh penyerangan pasukan bersenjata Rusia ke wilayah kedaulatan negara Ukraina, pesawat ini tidak mendapatkan pasokan suku cadang lagi dari pabrik pesawat Embraer sejak 2019. Situs penjejak ADS-B pergerakan pesawat Flightradar24 memberikan data terakhir pesawat RA-02795 sebagai berikut. Pesawat lepas landas dari Moskow 15:00 UTC hari Rabu tanggal 23 /8/2023. Jam 15:11 UTC, pesawat mencapai altitude 28.000 ft (8.500 m). Pesawat tetap di ketinggian 28.000 kaki sampai jam 15:19 UTC. Kemudian menaik menuju 30.100 ft (9.200 m). Selanjutnya menurun ke 27.500 ft (8.400 m) sebelum menaik kembali ke ketinggian 29.300 ft (8.900 m). Pada pukul 15:20:14 UTC atau 18:20 waktu setempat, ketika transmisi data hilang, pesawat sudah berada di ketinggian 19.725 ft (6.012 m). Diberitakan kemudian di media pesawat, RA-02795 jatuh di dusun Kuzhenkino Region Tver Oblast sekitar 100 km utara Moskow. Berarti RA-02795 jatuh ±20 menit 14 detik, selepas landas dalam proses initial climbing. 10 PoB (7 pax + 3 awak) dinyatakan tewas dengan kondisi pesawat hancur terbakar di Bumi Tver. (Sumber Wikipedia, Reuters dan Flightradar24)