

Successful DNA: InbraFiltro Group stands out with family tradition and innovation

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** In a series of interviews conducted by Smart Kevlar® Review, security, safety and defense executives from Brazil, Colombia and Mexico share their stories and talk about their experience on operating in the industry.*

The series of interviews start with Claudia Candido, Marketing and Relationship Director at InbraFiltro Group, a Brazilian company that the Candido family

history in its DNA. With 40 years in operation, the company was founded by Jairo Candido, Claudia's father, and chaired by her mother - who founded InbraFiltro with Lourival Candido, Claudia's cousin and president of the company since 2017 . "In 1988, my deceased mother, Edi Candido, then president of the Group, was invited to bring aramid fiber to Brazil for ballistic use, as we were already working with a derivative of industrial filtration material, and she took up the challenge." She says.

In 1979, operation in the textile industry consisted of the production of filters and industrial technical fabrics. Since then, the business has expanded to life protection, security, and defense market with a focus on modernizing its industrial solutions and processes. "We always try to be at the forefront of this scenario. Thus, today, despite the bureaucracy of the industry's inspection and control agencies, we seek to perform in innovation," explains the executive.

It is currently one of the largest Brazilian manufacturers of life protection equipment with solutions such as helmets, shields and bulletproof vests, as well as vehicle armor and special materials for military apparatuses.



Challenges and Opportunities in the Field

With a more than consolidated operations, the director recognizes the adversities that the Brazilian market presents and works to overcome them. “When we talk about Brazil, the biggest challenges are bureaucracy and lack of resources to adequately equip the forces. As a result, we have limitations in investments in innovation. Because we live in a country in which security scenario requires higher protection, we need to find ways to meet this market demand,” she highlights.

The security and safety scenario in Latin America are increasingly promising, despite the obstacles, and companies operating in this industry play an important role in product creation. It is a field that demands investments in research, development, and innovation.

Industry Trends

“According to the current scenario, the trend is for materials to be increasingly resistant and light for the prevention of organized crime, which uses military weapons,” she says.

Claudia continues the legacy left by her parents alongside a qualified team and highlights that entering this field was a natural decision. She began at the age of 20 and remembers with great joy the beginning of her professional life in the family business, a time that she emphasizes was very pleasant and with a lot of learning. “My entry in this field turned out to be something organic. Starting young gave me a lot of courage to take the risk. Today, I am very proud to be part of the history of ballistic protection in Brazil,” she concludes.

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