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ST. LOUIS, Dec. 13, 2010 -- The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] today announced that Maryland will benefit from an estimated 150 total jobs and generate an estimated \$8 million in annual economic impact if the Boeing NewGen Tanker is selected as the U.S. Air Force's next aerial refueling aircraft.

Boeing submitted its proposal July 9 to replace 179 of the Air Force's 400 Eisenhower-era KC-135 aircraft. The Air Force is expected to award a contract early next year.

"Boeing's Maryland work force is a key part of our United States Tanker Team, providing the highest quality aerospace components for our NewGen Tanker," said Mark DeVoss, Supplier Management director, Boeing Tanker Programs. "The Maryland tanker workers will help build what will be the most capable, survivable, combat-ready aircraft at the lowest cost to the American taxpayer."

Maryland manufacturers ready to produce critical components on the NewGen Tanker include Eaton in Beltsville and Fairchild Controls in Frederick.

Currently, Boeing has 986 employees in Maryland and works with nearly 478 suppliers/vendors, delivering a total \$792 million in annual economic impact.

The NewGen Tanker is a widebody, multi-mission aircraft based on the proven Boeing 767 commercial airplane and updated with the latest and most advanced technology. Capable of fulfilling the Air Force's needs for transport of fuel, cargo, passengers and patients, the combat-ready NewGen Tanker will meet or exceed the 372 mandatory requirements described in the service's final KC-X Request for Proposal released Feb. 24.

The NewGen Tanker will be made with a low-risk approach to manufacturing that relies on existing Boeing facilities in Washington state and Kansas as well as U.S. suppliers throughout the nation, with decades of experience delivering dependable military tanker and derivative aircraft. Nationwide, the NewGen Tanker program will support approximately 50,000 total U.S. jobs with Boeing and more than 800 suppliers in more than 40 states.

The Boeing NewGen Tanker also will be more cost-effective to own and operate than a larger, heavier tanker. It will save American taxpayers more than \$10 billion in fuel costs over its 40-year service life because it burns 24 percent less fuel than the competitor's airplane.

Boeing has been designing, building, modifying and supporting tankers for decades. These include the KC-135 that will be replaced in the KC-X competition, and the KC-10 fleet. The company also has delivered four KC-767Js to the Japan Air Self-Defense Force and is on contract to deliver four KC-767As to the Italian Air Force.

More information on Boeing's NewGen Tanker, including video clips and an interactive tour of the aircraft, is available at www.UnitedStatesTanker.com. For more information on joining the company's efforts, visit www.RealAmericanTankers.com.

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