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ST. LOUIS, May 15, 2017 - Boeing's [NYSE: BA] decision to assemble its T-X Air Force training jet at its St. Louis facility is expected to support approximately 1,800 jobs in the region.

If the Air Force chooses Boeing to help train pilots for generations to come, T-X will be the newest project for a community that has produced some of the most acclaimed military aircraft of the past seven decades.

"The Boeing T-X trainer will keep Americans safe and create more jobs for Missourians," said Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens. "Companies like Boeing, which are committed to growing and investing here, show the world that our state is open for business and ready to create new jobs."

The jobs projection includes direct and indirect positions expected to be supported by the T-X work.

"Today's announcement is further proof that Boeing's St. Louis workforce is among the best and most innovative in the country," said U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, a senior member of the Armed Services Committee. "Boeing's T-X program is truly the future of the U.S. Air Force training and the right choice for training future generations of pilots right here in Missouri."

"I'm proud that Boeing has trust in the highly-skilled workforce in my district, and I look forward to the economic opportunity these jobs will bring for our community and the Missouri supply chain," added U.S. Rep. Lacy Clay who represents Missouri's first district that includes Boeing's St. Louis facility.

Speaking about the statewide economic impact, U.S. Rep. Ann Wagner said, "This announcement is monumental, not only for Boeing employees, but for the region and state as well. When new opportunities like this arise, the economic multiplier effect creates new jobs and opportunities in St. Louis and across Missouri."

The first two new, purpose-built T-X aircraft have proven the design's low-risk, performance and repeatability in manufacturing.

"Our highly-skilled St. Louis workforce designed, assembled, and brought Boeing T-X to life and they continue to define the future, not just for our company, but for our customers and the global aerospace industry," said Shelley Lavender, St. Louis senior executive and president of Boeing Military Aircraft.

Boeing T-X is a training system designed specifically for the Air Force training mission. It will replace the service's fleet of aging T-38 aircraft. The initial acquisition, for 350 aircraft and the associated ground-based training and support, is valued at up to \$16 billion. Initial operating capability is planned for 2024. The contract award is expected by the end of the year.

Get the latest Boeing T-X updates at www.boeing.com/t-x or by searching #NewBoeingTX on Twitter. Media can also access photos and video of the aircraft in flight at http://bds.navigon.net; user name: STL TX: password: TXSTL. Continue to check back for updated content.

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