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An aircraft software team at Boeing in Seal Beach, Calif., has earned the highest rating possible -- a Level 5 score -- from the Software Engineering Institute (SEI). The SEI ratings are indicators of an organization's ability to design and deliver top-quality software in its products.

Boeing Vice President Dr. Leslie M. Lackman said that the Boeing-Seal Beach site is only the fourth organization to achieve the Level 5 rating out of more than 680 assessed by the Software Productivity Consortium. The U.S. Air Force/Boeing Inertial Upper Stage booster program in Seattle also has achieved the SEI Level 5 rating.

The consortium, under license from SEI, conducted an independent assessment of processes used at Seal Beach on software-intensive programs such as the U.S. Air Force B-1B bomber's central integrated test system and its electrical multiplexing system. Also assessed were processes for the NASA/Microcraft Hyper-X hypersonic flight test vehicle program.

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