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Ronald B. Woodard, former president of Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, has decided to retire effective Nov. 1.

"On behalf of the people of Boeing, I want to personally express our appreciation to Ron for his many valuable contributions over the years and to wish him the very best in his retirement", said Phil Condit, chairman and CEO.

Woodard, 55, joined Boeing in 1966. Over the next 32 years, he worked in all major areas of airplane production management and international sales, contributing to every commercial jet program from the 707 through the 777. He was appointed president of Boeing Commercial Airplane Group in December 1993. On Sept. 1, Alan Mulally was named to succeed him in that position. Woodard is a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society where he was elected a fellow in 1994. He serves on the board of trustees for the University of Puget Sound, is a member of the board of directors of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation and is chairman of the board of the Seattle Symphony.

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