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The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] has been honored for its efforts in the launch services arena, having received two Stellar Team Awards from the Rotary National Award for Space Achievement (RNASA) Foundation for its Delta II program.

The award recognized the Delta II launch team for conducting 22 launches in an 18-month period, during which time the company successfully delivered 72 satellites into orbit.

Another team at the company's Pueblo, Colo., rocket assembly facility also was honored for its Community Access to Space program, an on-site education program which has introduced thousands of college, high school and elementary school-age children to the inner workings of the plant.

"It's an honor to receive these awards which recognize both our efforts on the launch pad and within the community," said Jay Witzling, Boeing vice president of Delta II and Titan Fairings Programs. "We are grateful for the recognition of these achievements."

Nominations for Stellar Awards are solicited from NASA, military, university and industry leaders. A panel, whose decisions are based on which nominees' accomplishments hold the greatest promise for furthering future activities in space, then reviews them.

Established in 1985 by the Space Center Rotary Club, the RNASA recognizes outstanding achievements in space while creating greater public awareness of the benefits of space exploration.

The Boeing Delta II is a medium capacity expendable launch vehicle derived from the Delta family of rockets built and launched since 1960. The 80 Delta IIs launched to date have achieved a 97.4 percent success rate.

Delta II rockets are manufactured in Huntington Beach, Calif. Boeing builds the Delta II main engine, the RS-27A in Canoga Park, Calif. Final assembly takes place at the Boeing facility in Pueblo, Colo.

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