Final Assembly Begins Ahead Of Schedule For Boeing Joint Strike Fighter Demonstrator

Boeing assembly workers in Palmdale, Calif., began final assembly of the Boeing Joint Strike Fighter X-32A concept demonstrator on April 1, 1999 when they attached the forebody to the mid-fuselage. The milestone was met two weeks ahead of schedule. Boeing is using digital design and lean manufacturing techniques to reduce X-32 fabrication and assembly costs by 30 to 40 percent compared to original cost projections.