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The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command has awarded the Electronic Systems and Missile Defense unit of The Boeing Company [NYSE:BA] an initial \$3.2-million contract to continue providing engineering services in support of the Avenger and Bradley-Linebacker air defense systems. Additional options would bring the total amount of the contract to \$45-million-plus through fiscal year 2003, if exercised.

Boeing will provide technical, logistical and engineering product support to the Army for Short-Range Air Defense (SHORAD) Programs -- Avenger, Slew-to-Cue and Bradley-Linebacker. Contract work will be performed at the Boeing facility in Huntsville, Ala.

"This contract builds upon the long-standing, reliable support that Boeing has provided in the past for Army short-range air defense programs," said Dave Hillman, director, Air Defense programs. "We're committed to working with the Army to provide the best value in terms of engineering support and service."

Boeing has provided engineering services to the Army since full production began on the Avenger in 1990 and the Bradley-Linebacker in 1995. Both systems use vehicle-mounted Stinger missiles to provide shoot-on-the-move short-range air defense against low flying, fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles. Slew-to-cue enhances the capability of Avenger with digital cueing capability, allowing rapid acquisition and engagement of hostile targets.

Boeing Huntsville is part of the Boeing Electronic Systems & Missile Defense organization which provides products and services to customers in its addressed markets of strategic missiles, missile defense systems, marine system products, as well as electronics products and sensor systems for global defense and commercial markets.

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