Boeing-Led Team Honored For U.K. AWACS Program

The Boeing Company's upgrade of the radar and navigation systems of the United Kingdom's E-3D Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) fleet has been selected as one of that country's top procurement programs.

Out of hundreds of potential contenders, a Boeing-led team was singled out as one of six winners of the Ministry of Defence's Smart Acquisition award program.

"The integrated U.S. Air Force, Royal Air Force (RAF) and industry team called Team 7, successfully completed the Radar System Improvement (RSIP) and Global Positioning/Inertial Navigation System (GINS) upgrades to the seven UK AWACS ahead of schedule and within budget in 2000," said Mike Brewer, Boeing U.K. AWACS program manager.

"This international co-operation with industry has been noted as setting the standard for Smart Acquisition."

Team 7 comprises stakeholder representatives from all key government and industry agencies associated with the UK RSIP/GINS program. These members include, Electronic Systems Center, U.S. Air Force; U.K. Ministry of Defence/Sentry Integrated Project Team; U.K./RAF Waddington, U.K./Defence Evaluation and Research Agency; Boeing; BAE SYSTEMS and Northrop Grumman's Electronic Sensors and Systems Sector.

Team 7 representatives received their award by The Right Honourable Baroness Symons, Minister of Defence Procurement, during a ceremony at the British Parliament's House of Lords May 1.

RSIP improves the AWACS radar by increasing the sensitivity of the pulse Doppler radar allowing the aircraft to detect and track smaller targets. It also improves the radar's counter-countermeasures capability. GINS dramatically improves positioning accuracy.

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