Boeing, CAE Jointly Bid for U.S. Army Flight School XXI Training Program

Boeing [NYSE:BA] and CAE have agreed to bid jointly for the U.S. Army Flight School XXI program. Through this program, the Army is looking for innovative business solutions and training approaches to develop, maintain, operate, upgrade and support virtual flight simulation training conducted at the Army Aviation Center in Ft. Rucker, Ala.

Flight School XXI supports the Army's transformation efforts with an objective to increase aviator experience in their aircraft prior to their first combat unit assignment. Both initial entry flight training and advanced aircraft qualification training will be provided under the Flight School XXI program.

"Boeing and CAE make a great team for Flight School XXI. Together we will leverage our preeminent training device expertise with our unmatched aerospace support capabilities," said Keith Hertzenberg, vice president and general manager of Training Systems and Services, part of the Boeing Military Aerospace Support business. "Together, we can ensure a ready-to-fight Army aircrew at the highest levels of affordability and reliability."

The Flight School XXI program includes three primary requirements.

First, the Army requires advanced aircraft virtual simulators capable of being reconfigured to the following platforms: Boeing AH-64A Apache and AH-64D Apache Longbow, Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk, Boeing CH-47D Chinook, Bell OH-58D Kiowa Warrior, and in the future, Boeing-Sikorsky RAH-66 Comanche. These reconfigurable simulators must support individual/crew, collective, combined-arms, and joint-training requirements. Additionally, these advanced aircraft virtual simulators will support all leader development courses and geo-specific aviation training exercises.

Second, the Army requires high-fidelity TH-67 simulators. The TH-67 helicopter is the basic flight-training helicopter for all Army aviators.

Finally, a multi-function support staff is required to manage, support, schedule, maintain, operate and upgrade all TH-67 and advanced aircraft virtual simulators.

"A CAE-Boeing team brings a range of strengths and capabilities to the pursuit of this program," said John Lenyo, president and general manager of CAE USA. "CAE is one of the world's most experienced and innovative providers of rotary wing training and simulation. We believe our experience and technical leadership, combined with the capabilities of Boeing, will give the U.S. Army a truly world-class training solution."

CAE is a global leader in the provision of simulation and control technologies and training solutions for aerospace, defense and marine markets. Headquartered in Canada, CAE employs more than 6,000 people around the world. By focusing its training systems and services expertise; modernization and upgrades capabilities; maintenance and modification centers; logistics personnel services; and sustainment data and supply chain management support competencies in the Military Aerospace Support business, Boeing is the only major airframe manufacturer with an integrated organization structured to provide total life-cycle customer support for military aircraft and weapons systems.

The Boeing Company is the world's largest manufacturer of satellites, commercial jetliners and military aircraft. In terms of sales, Boeing is the largest exporter in the United States. Total company revenues for 2001 were $58 billion.

Boeing Military Aircraft and Missile Systems designs, produces and provides follow-on support for fighters, bombers, transports, rotorcraft and weapons for the United States and its allies around the globe. As the world's largest military aircraft manufacturer, Boeing has delivered more than 130,000 military aircraft to the U.S. government and international customers. Among emerging businesses are unmanned systems, as well as military aircraft that are based on the company's renowned commercial airplanes.

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