

Boeing Wins \$81.2 Million Helmet-Mounted Cueing System Contract

The U.S. Department of Defense awarded Boeing [NYSE: BA] an \$81.2 million contract to produce more than 300 Joint Helmet-Mounted Cueing Systems, or JHMCS.

The U.S. Navy will utilize the JHMCS in its F/A-18E/F Super Hornets and the U.S. Air Force on its F-15s and F-16s. Deliveries for this contract have already begun.

"This system revolutionizes the way pilots go to battle," said Mike Rietz, Boeing Joint Helmet-Mounted Cueing System program manager. "The system has performed beyond operational effectiveness expectations."

The JHMCS consists of electronics installed in the aircraft and a new helmet that interfaces with them. The JHMCS displays continuous flight information inside the helmet visors and allows for the aiming or deploying of sensors and air-to-air or air-to-ground weapons with little more effort than pressing a switch.

The U.S. military is expected to order more than 1,500 systems. Boeing is the prime contractor and integrator for JHMCS and Vision Systems International is the major subcontractor. The U.S. Government has completed operational tests of the JHMCS on the F-15 and the F/A-18E/F and testing on the F-16 is still in progress. A full-rate production contract award is anticipated by June 2003.

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For further information:

Bob Algarotti

(314) 233-1532

robert.a.algarotti@boeing.com
