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Boeing [NYSE:BA] and Przemyslowy Instytut Telekomunikacji (PIT) of Poland announced today plans to jointly study a missile defense architecture.

A Memorandum of Understanding signed by PIT and Boeing calls for the companies to jointly examine the architectural parameters for a regional missile defense system.

James Evatt, senior vice president of Missile Defense Systems, a business unit of Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, said, "PIT is a critical component of our central European global Missile Defense partnerships. This agreement also represents another important step in global cooperation that is critical for the future security of our nations, military forces, and allies."

"PIT brings expertise in radar command and control capability, The Boeing Company was seeking in a Central European Partner," said Dr. Roman Dufrene, Managing Director, PIT. "Poland continues to be a regional leader in the NATO Partnership for Peace Program and is proud to partner with Boeing on a program that will have global significance."

PIT is responsible for developing new technologies that enhance the defense of Poland and add to the security of the region. The announcement follows similar agreements that were signed over the past year between Boeing, Alenia Spazio, a Finmeccanica Company of Italy, CAE of Canada, European Aeronautics and Defense Systems (EADS) and BAE SYSTEMS of the UK.

Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, currently a prime contractor for the United States government on integrated missile defense systems, established the MOU with PIT as an open framework for long-term cooperation. Boeing is responsible for the development and integration of the ground-based mid-course defense elements, including the ground-based interceptor, early warning radars, and interfaces to the space-based infrared system satellites.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is one of the world's largest space and defense businesses. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a \$25 billion business. It provides systems solutions to its global military, government and commercial customers. It is a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; the world's largest military aircraft manufacturer; the world's largest satellite manufacturer and a leading provider of space-based communications; the primary systems integrator for U.S. missile defense; NASA's largest contractor; and a global leader in satellite launch services. In terms of sales, Boeing is also the largest U.S. exporter.

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