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The Florida Space Coast Council of the National Management Association (NMA) bestowed its highest honor, the Gold Knight of Management Award, to Boeing [NYSE: BA] Florida Operations Vice President Bruce Melnick, at a dinner Monday night at the Patrick Air Force Base Officers Club.

The award cited Melnick, a former NASA astronaut, "for his strong promotion of ethics within The Boeing Company" and for practicing an "honest open door policy" with Boeing's 2,500 site employees, "whom he regularly encourages to assume stretch goals and projects." The Boeing executive was also honored for his leadership and commitment to the local community.

Melnick said he was "truly honored and humbled" by the award, and credited his Boeing co-workers for giving him their strong support.

Melnick also received the NMA's Silver Knight of Management award in 2000. He has been an NMA member since 1996.

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For further information:

Brian Nelson

Boeing Florida Operations

321-264-8581
