Boeing Completes Mission Computer Upgrade of Saudi Arabia's AWACS Fleet

Boeing [NYSE: BA] has completed installation of new mission computers and other hardware and software on the Royal Saudi Air Force's fleet of five AWACS aircraft.

The contract upgraded the aircraft's mission computer and software to the same level currently in use by the U.S. Air Force AWACS fleet. This enhancement improves operator capabilities and equipment reliability. Additionally, Boeing provided RSAF operator training and logistics support and an improved identification friend or foe system.

Erwin Mollnar, Saudi AWACS program manager for Boeing, said, "This modernization not only increases the effectiveness and reliability of the Saudi AWACS fleet, but paves the way for future communications and navigation upgrades."

Saudi Arabia's AWACS fleet is part of the Peace Sentinel program that began in 1981. It included the five AWACS aircraft and eight KE-3 refueling tanker aircraft, along with spare parts, trainers and support equipment. The first Saudi E-3s were delivered in June 1986, with deliveries of the remaining E-3s and tankers completed by September 1987.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Integrated Defense Systems is one 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 launch services.

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