

Boeing Licenses Advanced Network Technology to L-3 Communications

The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] and L-3 Communications (NYSE: LLL) have signed a licensing agreement allowing a division of L-3 to market one of Boeing's advanced network systems technologies across multiple industries.

Called IntelliBus, the patented technology was originally developed by Boeing to provide a higher performance yet simpler, lighter, more functional and more affordable on-board network system for advanced military aircraft.

A bus architecture can be thought of as an electronic highway or something akin to the human nervous system. A bus is actually a high-speed electronic network that allows multiple sensors, actuators, and other electronics devices to operate over a single shared communication link.

Bus networks also feature significantly less wiring and fewer connectors and controls units, making the system more reliable, easier and faster to install and maintain, and 50 percent lighter than standard systems. Its high bandwidth provides greater performance and functionality for high density sensor, actuator and subsystem applications.

L-3 plans to build IntelliBus components for data acquisition systems and vehicle management systems for prototype or production ground vehicles.

"IntelliBus complements the extensive capabilities of L-3 Communications Telemetry-East in data acquisition, systems integration, networking and transmission across a variety of markets," said Dick Braatz, president of L-3 Communications Telemetry-East. "This Boeing technology brings a new level of performance to cost-effective solutions in large-scale data acquisition systems."

The Boeing Intellectual Property Business, through its Automotive and Transportation Program, negotiated the licensing agreement, which allows L-3 Communications' Telemetry-East division to pursue new business opportunities in the sensor and actuator bus market.

"This is a good example of how Boeing leverages its technology, patents and innovative talent to enhance value for the company," said Gene Partlow, Boeing Intellectual Property Business vice president. "Boeing has a goal to standardize IntelliBus technology in the aerospace and other industries, and L-3 Communications can help achieve this goal."

Based in Irvine, Calif., the Boeing Intellectual Property Business leverages Boeing's vast amount of intellectual property -- including technology, patents and innovative talent -- to enhance economic profit through a variety of licensing, donations, and IP generation and protection initiatives.

Headquartered in New York City, L-3 Communications is a leading merchant supplier of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) systems and products, secure communications systems and products, avionics and ocean products, training devices and services, microwave components and telemetry, instrumentation, space and navigation products. Its customers include the U.S. Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, selected U.S. government intelligence agencies, aerospace prime contractors and commercial telecommunications and wireless companies.

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For further information:

Glen Golightly
The Boeing Company
(714) 372-4742
glen.golightly@boeing.com
Vivian Shelton
L-3 Communications
(858) 694-7942
vivian.shelton@L-3com.com
