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Boeing [NYSE:BA] announced today that its Aerospace Support organization has been selected as a recipient of the 2003 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

The Baldrige Award is the highest honor in U.S. industry, recognizing manufacturing, service, education and healthcare organizations, and small businesses for performance excellence. The award is traditionally presented by the President of the United States at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C., which will take place in 2004.

Boeing Aerospace Support was one of only two selected in the service category of the Baldrige Award and one of seven of this year's original 68 applicants. This is the second Baldrige Award received by Boeing. In 1998, the Boeing Airlift & Tanker organization was a Baldrige recipient in the manufacturing category.

"We are enormously proud to be recognized for business excellence through the rigorous Baldrige process," said David Spong, president, Aerospace Support, for Boeing. "This is a key milestone in our on-going quest to provide world-class service to our customers.

"Receiving the Baldrige Award clearly demonstrates the dedication of all of our Aerospace Support people to continuous improvement, and to providing quality support to the men and women in uniform," Spong said. "This recognition is especially gratifying given the complex nature of our diverse Aerospace Support organization and the work we provide to our customers."

Aerospace Support, part of Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, provides a full range of support products and services -- including maintenance, modifications, training, spares and logistics services -- to reduce life-cycle costs and increase the effectiveness of aircraft and other military systems fielded around the globe. The business employs nearly 13,000 people at 130 sites around the globe, and has revenues in excess of \$4 billion. Its headquarters are in St. Louis, and has major facilities in Wichita, Kan.; San Antonio; Mesa, Ariz.; Long Beach, Calif.; Philadelphia, Penn.; Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Oklahoma City; and Brisbane, Australia.

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 launch services. ###

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