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The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] and Singapore Aerospace Manufacturing (SAM) today unveiled a joint training program, for select Vietnamese engineers, that will advance Vietnam 's goal of establishing an aviation manufacturing industry.

Christopher Flint, country executive for Vietnam -- Boeing Commercial Airplanes, and Jeffrey Goh, president --SAM, led their respective delegations in the announcement here.

The eighteen-month course includes preliminary training at SAM sites in Singapore and one month of hands-on experience at a Boeing facility. It is one of the first programs to be launched by Boeing and its supplier/partners as a result of the "Aerospace Manufacturing Symposium," which Boeing hosted in Hanoi last August in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam.

"A key objective for Boeing in hosting the first annual 'Aerospace Manufacturing Symposium' is to explore how we can work together with our supplier/partners and assist Vietnam in developing an aviation manufacturing industry," said Flint. "The most important factor in making any industry or organization a success is resources, especially human resources.

"Recognizing this, Boeing is joining Singapore Aerospace Manufacturing to train Vietnamese engineers in preparation for them to return here to work in SAM's future manufacturing facility in Vietnam," Flint continued.

In addition to a cooperative effort with SAM, Boeing is also working with Vietnam Airlines and American Pacific University in designing an aviation curriculum geared toward preparing candidates in the operation, maintenance and management of airplane fleets and airline functions.

Boeing is continuously growing its presence in Vietnam. The company works closely with Vietnam Airlines to provide the national carrier with the best airplanes to fulfill its requirements, cooperates with Vietnamese governmental agencies to strengthen the country's aviation industry, and supports non-profit organizations to better the lives of those living in Vietnam.

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For further information: T. May Kulthol Boeing Commercial Airplanes office: 206-766-2033 mobile: 206-853-5824