TSAT SS Completes Major Design Review

Boeing [NYSE: BA] announced the Transformational SATCOM Space Segment (TSAT SS) program successfully completed its Interim Space Segment Design Review (ISSDR).

"The completion of this review is a major step toward realizing the Air Force's vision for TSAT," said John Fuller, vice president Boeing Air Force Space Systems. "We demonstrated technical and schedule confidence, and that our flight path is achievable." TSAT SS is a key enabler of Network Centric Operations and will provide a survivable, secure and protected high-capacity global internet-like connectivity for the U.S. Department of Defense, civilian and intelligence communities.

Boeing demonstrated to the Air Force the team's requirements definition, system definition, risk reduction and technology maturity efforts are on schedule, in the Company's System of Systems Integration Laboratory in Huntington Beach, Calif.

The Boeing team is one of two contractor teams awarded a $514 million TSAT SS risk reduction and system definition study contract in January 2004. The study continues through 2006, when the government will select a single contractor to proceed with the acquisition and operation phase. A major development effort for the DoD, the TSAT SS first launch is planned for early next decade. Supported by a constellation of satellites in geosynchronous orbit, TSAT SS will provide the backbone of the DoD's high-bandwidth networked communications.

The operational system will create net-centric functionality enabling defense and intelligence professionals to make rapid decisions based on integrated and comprehensive information. In addition to supporting Communications On The Move services and protected strategic communications, the TSAT satellites will incorporate laser communications to create a high-bandwidth spacecraft-to-spacecraft links, as well as links to Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance platforms. The system will be interoperable with deployed and infrastructure networks and will provide superior network information assurance.

Boeing's "Best of Industry" Team includes industry and world leaders in networking and telecommunications, coupled with leading aerospace expertise in the development of advanced MILSATCOM capabilities. The Boeing team includes Raytheon, Ball Aerospace, General Dynamics, Cisco Systems, IBM, L-3 Communications, BBN Technologies, Hughes Network Systems, Lucent Technologies, Harris, EMS Technologies, and Alpha Informatics.

The U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center manages the program through a joint program office at Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif.

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 $30.5 billion business. It provides network-centric system solutions to its global military, government, and commercial customers. It is a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems; 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 sustainment solutions and launch services.
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