Boeing Awarded Common Bomber Mission Planning Enterprise Contract

The U.S. Air Force awarded Boeing [NYSE:BA] a $153 million Mission Planning Enterprise Contract (MPEC) delivery order for a common bomber joint mission planning system for B-1, B-2 and B-52 bomber aircraft.

This delivery order provides for the development of joint mission planning support for the U.S. Air Force's bomber fleet. Boeing will be the lead systems integrator, teaming with BAE Systems, Northrop Grumman, and the U.S. Air Force's Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center.

"The Air Force developed the MPEC program to eliminate stovepipes and duplicated effort and increase interoperability," said Keith Hertzenberg, Boeing vice president of Training Systems & Services for Boeing Logistics Support Systems. "The increased interoperability between the Air Force's bomber force and other Department of Defense mission planning systems will result in increased capability for the warfighter."

Boeing is one of five contractors selected in November 2004 by the U.S. Air Force for MPEC, an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity program with a $2 billion total value over five years. MPEC is the prime contract vehicle for Air Force commissioned mission planning software development and support work.

A mission planning system provides the best plan for an aircraft or weapon to achieve its mission generated by a combination of software, hardware, and trained mission planners.

"It is a natural follow-on to other work we're doing for the U.S. Air Force," Hertzenberg said. "We believe our strong mission planning performance will allow us to capture a significant portion of future MPEC delivery orders beyond our existing contracted work."

This is the fourth MPEC delivery order Boeing has received. Boeing was given a $1.7 million delivery order for F-15 mission planning support in June. That delivery order calls for development, testing and integration of F-15 Suite 5 changes into the F-15 joint mission planning system's unique planning component. In April, Boeing was given a $9.1 million delivery order for B-2 on-site support at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.; Eglin AFB, Fla.; and Offutt AFB, Neb. Boeing's first delivery order through MPEC was a $250,000 program to begin the joint mission planning system and legacy mission planning support process.

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