Boeing Wins \$10 Million Major Weather Satellite Study Contract

Boeing [NYSE:BA] officials announced today a Boeing-led team received a \$10-million contract to define the next-generation weather satellite for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The Program Definition and Risk Reduction is a study contract for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite Program, known as GOES-R. The contract contains two options, which if exercised will extend the contract another 16 months and increase its value to \$30 million. The Boeing-led team includes Harris Corp., Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp, Atmospheric and Environmental Research, Inc., and Carr Astronautics.

The goal of the study contract is to analyze the GOES-R requirements and to develop a system solution satisfying those requirements through incorporation of advanced sensing technology, ground data processing, communications, and command and control. GOES-R will also be a key element of NOAA's global earth observation system of systems.

"Four decades of Boeing experience designing and building meteorological satellites will ensure NOAA has the technology to meet its mission goals: understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet our nation's economic, social, and environmental needs," said Howard Chambers, vice president and general manager for Boeing Space & Intelligence Systems. "With this year's hurricane season fresh in our minds we look forward in the coming months to leveraging the combined talents and experience of our team to provide NOAA with the best end-to-end capability for GOES-R."

When ready for launch in 2012, GOES-R will improve the timeliness and accuracy of weather forecasts and will also improve support for the detection and observation of meteorological phenomena. These improvements will be accomplished with enhanced data handling on the ground, as well as an improved spacecraft integrated with state-of-the-art sensors, such as the advanced baseline imager and the hyperspectral environmental suite. These GOES-R improvements will directly affect public safety, protection of property, and economic health and development.

Boeing is currently the prime contractor for the next series of geosynchronous environmental systems, GOES N-O-P. The GOES N-O-P program consists of three state-of-the-art imaging spacecraft and the supporting ground command and control elements. The GOES-N satellite will provide imaging and sounding of the environment of the western hemisphere; information which will result in earlier and more precise weather warnings for the public.

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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