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Preston Aviation Solutions Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of The Boeing Company [NYSE:BA], has been commissioned by United Airlines to conduct a system-wide computer simulation study of its operations.

The objective of the simulation project is to assess the impact of various proposed schedule changes by United Airlines. Preston will use its industry-leading Total Airspace and Airport Modeler (TAAM) simulation tool to accurately model current flight operations for United Airlines, followed by the simulation of alternative "what-if" scenarios associated with a number of perceived or proposed changes in airline schedules.

"The use of simulation scenarios is fundamental to our planning process," said John Schneider, director of operations analysis of United Airlines. "We are familiar with the benefits it provides, having used Preston's simulation expertise in the past, and believe that this study will significantly assist us in achieving more optimal performance."

Using TAAM, United will perform detailed analysis of various operational factors including traffic flows, taxi-flows to and from the runways, delays, runway usage, and utilization of airport facilities. This analysis will subsequently allow United to develop strategies to reduce costs and increase its operational efficiencies.

"We are pleased that we can once again assist United Airlines in identifying some of the challenges it faces through the use of our TAAM simulation software, coupled with the expertise of our specialised consultants," said Ian Ash, managing director of Preston.

Preston Aviation Solutions develops state-of-the-art aviation software, helping customers worldwide increase efficiency, capacity and safety through integrated simulation, decision support and scheduling solutions. A wholly owned subsidiary of The Boeing Company, Preston is an integral part of the Boeing Commercial Aviation Services unit. The established market presence and reach of Boeing, coupled with Preston's world leading technology and extensive customer base, allow Preston to offer unprecedented levels of aviation expertise, knowledge and support.

United Airlines operates more than 3,400 flights a day on United, United Express and Ted to more than 200 U.S. domestic and international destinations from its hubs in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, Chicago and Washington, D.C. With key global air rights in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe and Latin America, United is one of the largest international carriers based in the United States. United is also a founding member of Star Alliance, which provides connections for our customers to 790 destinations in 138 countries worldwide. United's 58,500 employees reside in every U.S. state and in many countries around the world.

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