

Boeing Receives \$450 million in Orders for Hornet Spare Parts

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The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] has received more than \$450 million in U.S. Department of Defense contracts for spare parts for the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy fleets of F/A-18C/D Hornet fighter jets.

Boeing received a five-year contract to provide more than 3,000 new flight control surfaces for the F/A-18A-D. This \$391 million order replaces a previous five-year agreement. Flight control surfaces are hinged or movable airfoils designed to change the aircraft's attitude during flight. Some of the F/A-18's surface pieces are as large as a compact car. The parts will be assembled in St. Louis with deliveries scheduled to begin this year and continuing through 2013.

The contracts also include 23 spare inner wings that will restart a portion of the production line, which originally closed in 2000. The inner wing is the largest portion of the wing system that does not fold up when the plane is stowed on an aircraft carrier. The wings will be built in St. Louis with first delivery scheduled for 2009. The 23 wings will cost a total of \$59.5 million.

The A-D models of the F/A-18 were designed before the current E and F models, called the Super Hornet, which is still in production. The Hornet is flown by seven international customers. Some of the spare parts will be produced for these allied military services under the recent agreements.

Awarded over the past two months, these new contracts demonstrate the confidence the U.S. Department of Defense has in Boeing and the Hornet, said Kristin Robertson, director of F/A-18 Support Systems and F/A-18A-D program manager.

"The Hornet plays a vital role in providing national security in the U.S. and with our allies around the world," Robertson said. "These spare wings and flight control surfaces will help keep the Hornet flying safely for years to come."

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 \$30.8 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; a foremost developer of advanced concepts and technologies; 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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For further information:

Steve Little

Boeing Media Relations

office: (314) 233-5952

stephen.l.little@boeing.com

Brad Mudd

Boeing Media Relations

office: (314) 233-1220

bradley.h.mudd@boeing.com
