Boeing Awarded $78.2 Million Contract to Upgrade ICBM Weapon System

Boeing [NYSE: BA] has received a $78.2 million contract from Northrop Grumman Mission Systems to deploy a replacement Environmental Control System (ECS) for more than 550 U.S. Air Force Minuteman Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) launch, missile alert and Class 1 trainer facilities.

The ECS regulates climate controls and ensures that electronics and ground support systems are maintained at specified pre-set temperatures in launch control centers and launch facilities.

The current Minuteman ECS, in use for more than 40 years, has been the focus of a redesign effort over the past decade. Boeing will remove the current ECS before installing and testing the new one. A separate contractor will manufacture the replacement systems. The contract calls for the work to be completed by 2011.

"We're very pleased to be selected for this important mission," said Kelly Johnson, Boeing ICBM program manager. "The Environmental Control System plays a vital role in maintaining the readiness of our nation's ICBM force."

Boeing, a subcontractor to Northrop Grumman Mission Systems on the Air Force ICBM program, also is responsible for supporting the sustaining engineering and modernization efforts under way for the silo-based ICBM fleet and supports the Minuteman Force Development Evaluation flight test program at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. The Minuteman ICBM is a three-stage, solid-fueled strategic missile. First deployed in the 1960s, there are 500 Minuteman ICBMs currently deployed in the nation's arsenal.

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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