

Boeing Delivers First Extended Block II Apache Longbow Helicopter to U.S. Army

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The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] this week delivered the first AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopter built under the extended Block II contract to the U.S. Army during a ceremony at the company's Mesa, Ariz., Apache production facility.

Boeing is remanufacturing 96 A-model Apaches for the U.S. Army under the extended Block II contract and continues to produce new-build wartime replacement U.S. Army Apaches while working toward delivery of the Block III Apaches beginning in 2011.

"Boeing hears repeatedly from our U.S. Army customer about the critical importance of the Apache to the commanders and aviators deployed around the globe," said Al Winn, Boeing Apache Programs vice president. "Apache teammates know the importance of continuing to deliver these helicopters on schedule to the soldiers."

U.S. Army Apache Project Manager Col. Derek Paquette joined Boeing leaders, suppliers and employees outside the Apache flight test hanger for the event.

"The AH-64D Apache Longbow continues to fulfill the attack and reconnaissance requirements of battlefield commanders," Paquette said. "With its arsenal of weapons, digital communications capabilities and integrated avionics, this is a flexible platform operating successfully across the spectrum of conflict."

The AH-64D Apache Longbow features fully integrated avionics and weapons plus a state-of-the-art modem that transmits real-time, secure, digitized battlefield information to air and ground forces. The Apache Longbow has the ability to rapidly detect, classify, prioritize and engage stationary or moving enemy targets at standoff ranges in nearly all weather environments.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is one of the world's largest space and defense businesses specializing in innovative and capabilities-driven customer solutions. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a \$32.4 billion business with 72,000 employees worldwide.

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