Boeing Ships Next-Generation GPS Satellite to Cape Canaveral for Tests

EL SEGUNDO, Calif., June 25, 2009-- Boeing [NYSE: BA] has shipped a Global Positioning System (GPS) IIF satellite to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida to conduct a series of key tests for the U.S. Air Force's next-generation satellite navigation system.

Built at Boeing's El Segundo satellite factory, Space Vehicle 2 (SV-2) is undergoing ground testing to prepare for the launch of SV-1, the first of 12 GPS IIF satellites. SV-2 arrived at Cape Canaveral May 7 aboard a C-17 Globemaster III.

SV-2 is being used to execute a consolidated system test (CST), which is a set of one-time, system-level design validation tests involving the space vehicle, the ground-based control segment, and user equipment. SV-2 is also being used as a "pathfinder" to validate satellite transportation processes and equipment, and to validate the launch site test program, procedures and equipment. After completion of the CST and pathfinder activities, SV-2 will return to El Segundo to prepare for its own launch from the Cape.

"The shipment of this pathfinder satellite keeps GPS IIF on track for its first launch, and continues Boeing's long, successful history of building GPS satellites for the U.S. Air Force," said Craig Cooning, vice president and general manager of Boeing Space and Intelligence Systems. "The GPS IIF system will bring more capability and improved mission performance to the GPS constellation."

GPS IIF is the product of Boeing's experience with 39 successful satellites from the GPS Block I and Block II/IIA missions and more than 30 years of teamwork with the Air Force. GPS IIF features twice the navigational accuracy of heritage satellites, more robust signals for commercial aviation and search and rescue, and greater resistance to jamming in hostile environments. It will form the core of the constellation for many years to come.

GPS is a space-based, worldwide navigation system providing users with highly accurate, three-dimensional position, velocity and timing information 24 hours a day in all weather conditions.

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, and the world's largest and most versatile manufacturer of military aircraft. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a $32 billion business with 70,000 employees worldwide.

###

Contact:

Marc Selinger
Space & Intelligence Systems
703-414-6138
marc.selinger@boeing.com

Diana Ball
Space & Intelligence Systems
562-797-4303
diana.ball@boeing.com