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CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., July 21, 2009 -- The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] today honored its small-business partners on NASA's Checkout, Assembly and Payload Processing Services (CAPPS) program at a reception in Cape Canaveral.

"Boeing appreciates the exceptional performance demonstrated by our small-business partners," said Brewster Shaw, vice president and general manager for Boeing Space Exploration. "Their execution of the challenging and intricate work associated with space exploration and development is critical as we work together to support the U.S. space program."

Boeing is committed to identifying opportunities for small businesses. In Florida, the company works with local Chambers of Commerce and the Florida Space Coast Economic Development Commission to maintain awareness of small-business innovations and endeavors in the area.

"Capable and experienced small businesses promote innovation, diversity and economic growth, and they are an integral part of our Boeing team," said Mark Jager, CAPPS program manager for Boeing. "We recognize the strength and value that a diverse team brings to the table, as demonstrated by our solid existing partnerships."

The small-business partners recognized at the event were All Points Logistics Inc., BRPH, Creative Management Technology Inc., Engravers Metal Fabricators, and Yang Enterprises Inc.

"The Florida Chamber of Commerce recognizes Boeing as a key leader supporting strong partnerships with small businesses and facilitating industry collaboration," said Gabe Sheheane, Government Affairs leader for the Florida Chamber.

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.

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