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ARLINGTON, Va., March 24, 2010 -- Boeing [NYSE: BA] is sponsoring the Western Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition on March 26-28 at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, Calif. The competition tests students' abilities to defend a network in a corporate scenario while accomplishing routine business tasks.

"We are proud to support the Western Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition as it focuses on the skills necessary to protect networks and information from cyber threats," said Barbara Fast, Boeing vice president of Cyber and Information Solutions. "Industry must help develop and employ the next generation of cybersecurity experts in order to ensure the availability and trustworthiness of our customers' networks and information."

The competition focuses on the operational aspects of managing and protecting an existing network infrastructure. Students from two- and four-year colleges and universities will face a "red team" of hackers trying to disrupt and compromise their networks.

Several Boeing employees -- Cal Poly Pomona and competition alumni -- will be on site during the competition in various support roles. Some have served as advisors to student teams and others will participate as red team members.

"Our continuing involvement in these skill-building competitions reflects Boeing's commitment to investing in national and economic security," said Fast.

Boeing also sponsored and provided personnel support to the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competitions earlier this month.

A unit of The Boeing Company, <u>Boeing Defense</u>, <u>Space & Security</u> is one of the world's largest defense, space and security 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 Defense, Space & Security is a \$34 billion business with 68,000 employees worldwide.

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