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Employees past and present celebrate landmark airplane

EVERETT, Wash., Feb. 2, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Boeing (NYSE: BA) marked a proud moment in the company's history today at a ceremonial rollout of the 1,000th 767 airplane. Hundreds of current employees, joined by Boeing retirees who worked on the first 767, gathered to celebrate the occasion at the Everett, Wash., factory.

"It was great to see so many people here today – the engineers, the technicians, the machinists – who have made the 767 the wonderful airplane it is," said Jim Albaugh, president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "As we salute the 1,000th 767, the next 767 is already being built in a new bay where we can produce airplanes much more efficiently for years to come. We hope many of the new 767s will become U.S. Air Force tankers built right here."

The 1,000th airplane is a 767-300ER (extended range) passenger model for ANA (All Nippon Airways) and was the final 767 to complete assembly on the current production line. Final production work already is underway on the 1,001 unit in a new, smaller bay that repositions the production line toward a leaner, more efficient operation.

Today's milestone is a chance for the 767 family to celebrate its past, present and future showcased in this video: <http://bit.ly/eMZIVv>.

Boeing has offered the 767 as the platform for its NewGen Tanker if it wins the U.S. Air Force KC-X Tanker competition. A decision on the contract award is expected early this year.

The 767 family is a family of clean, quiet, fuel-efficient airplanes that provide maximum market versatility in the 200- to 300-seat market. The 767 family includes three passenger models – the 767-200ER, 767-300ER and 767-400ER – and a medium-widebody freighter, which is based on the 767-300ER fuselage.

Contact:

Leslie Hazzard

767 communications

+1 425-717-0232

leslie.m.hazzard@boeing.com

Photo and caption are available here: <http://boeing.mediaroom.com>

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