Boeing Announces Workforce Reductions in Space Exploration Division

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HOUSTON, June 3, 2011 -- The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] today issued 60-day advance layoff notices to approximately 510 employees in its Space Exploration division, resulting primarily from the planned completion of the Space Shuttle program.

The notices include an estimated 260 employees in Houston, 150 at Kennedy Space Center, Fla., and 100 at the company's Huntington Beach, Calif., facility. The last workday for affected employees will be Aug. 5, pending the completion of the final space shuttle mission, STS-135.

Boeing is committed to retaining as many skilled workers as possible and has taken steps to lessen the impact to its workforce. These steps include redeploying personnel to programs such as International Space Station and Commercial Crew Development, and evaluating contract labor requirements. The company is providing affected employees with layoff benefits and career transition services.

"We hope that the next generation exploration launch system will serve to mitigate some of these losses, but time is running out," said Brewster Shaw, Boeing Space Exploration vice president and general manager. "Our priority will be to ensure the last space shuttle mission is safe and successfully executed, allowing the Space Shuttle program to cross the finish line as a winner. We are supporting our employees in their efforts to move to other positions, and we are grateful to them for their dedicated service."

In addition, Boeing previously announced Checkout, Assembly and Payload Processing Services reductions that would take place this year. The program issued approximately 35 notices on May 20 and additional reductions in force will occur throughout the summer.

Boeing has played a significant role in the U.S. space program for more than 50 years, participating in every major human spaceflight program since Project Mercury. The company has a record of safety and mission success and is committed to maintaining this capability as the United States shifts its space exploration activities to a new heavy-lift rocket for deep space exploration and commercial crew transportation services for Low Earth Orbit.

"We remain committed to NASA's human spaceflight program and will continue to pursue future opportunities," said Shaw.

Boeing is a major subcontractor to United Space Alliance (USA), NASA's prime contractor for space shuttle operations. Under this contract, Boeing provides NASA and USA with sustaining engineering, engineering support to operations -- including launch -- and overall shuttle systems and payload integration services. Boeing also is the designer and manufacturer of the space shuttle orbiters.

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 \$32 billion business with 65,000 employees worldwide. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@BoeingDefense</u>.

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