Boeing, University of Alabama in Huntsville Commemorate 1st Aegis Certificate Program Graduates

Partnership prepares future workforce in support of US Navy missions

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., May 8, 2012 -- The first class of 44 students has graduated from an Aegis Combat System (ACS) Certificate program established by The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] and the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAHuntsville). UAHuntsville established the ACS Certificate program last fall in collaboration with the Boeing Learning Together program, the company's tuition assistance program.

"UAHuntsville values opportunities to collaborate with industry to provide professional education that supports evolving program requirements and the latest technologies," said Karen Clanton, director of the UAHuntsville Division of Professional and Continuing Studies. "Boeing's ongoing priority of training its workforce for the future has provided numerous opportunities for UAHuntsville and Boeing partnerships, and the Aegis Combat System Certificate Program is definitely a prime example."

The program's objectives are to educate participants and to enable contractors and government organizations to develop an informed and responsive workforce. It is designed to provide a broad understanding of the U.S. Navy Aegis system's history and missions, as well as a high-level study of the system's design, engineering and technical features.

Led by instructors who are Aegis subject matter experts, the ACS Certificate program offers the opportunity to learn from respected industry leaders. The program consists of four courses that establish a foundation in naval language; Aegis systems engineering; weapon and combat system elements; and future strategies.

"The students who have completed this course now have a deeper understanding of Aegis and other ballistic missile defense systems," said Greg Hyslop, Boeing Strategic Missile & Defense Systems vice president and general manager. "Their expertise will be a valuable asset in their efforts to support the Navy's future missions. Boeing is proud to support this development opportunity and congratulates the first class of graduates."

The UAHuntsville Division of Professional and Continuing Studies offers a wide range of short courses and certificate programs that can assist organizations in reaching their employee development goals in the areas of engineering, management, and information technology. Many of the programs are developed to support the specialized needs of the aerospace and defense industries and are available both online and in the classroom.

Boeing is the largest aerospace company in Alabama and one of the state's largest employers. Current company operations in Huntsville include the Ground-based Midcourse Defense program and other missile defense work, including the Standard Missile-3 Block IIB program, the Arrow Weapon System, the Avenger, and the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 seeker. Huntsville-based programs that support NASA include Exploration Launch Systems, which oversees design and development of the new Space Launch System, and the International Space Station. The site also hosts Boeing's Rotorcraft Support business, and provides engineering support for commercial and commercial-derivative airplanes. With innovative and affordable capabilities to support the customer, Boeing in Huntsville is a low-cost, high-tech Center of Excellence.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Boeing Defense, Space & Security 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 62,000 employees worldwide. Follow us on Twitter: @BoeingDefense.

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