Joint Review Confirms Boeing 787 Meets Intended High Level of Safety

-Results of FAA/Boeing report validate company confidence in 787 design

-Recommended improvements already being implemented

EVERETT, Wash., March 19, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Boeing (NYSE:BA) have completed a comprehensive review of the 787's critical systems. The joint review, initiated in January 2013, included an examination of the processes for the design, certification and production of the 787-8. The review's findings validate the integrity of the airplane's design and confirm the strength of the processes used to identify and correct issues that emerged before and after the airplane's certification.

The review concludes that the 787 meets the intended high level of safety expected by the FAA and Boeing. The report includes recommendations aimed at further strengthening the FAA and Boeing's processes.

"We welcomed the opportunity presented by this joint review of the 787 and its in-service performance," said Boeing Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Ray Conner. "The findings validate our confidence in both the design of the airplane and the disciplined process used to identify and correct in-service issues as they arise. I am grateful for the hard work of the joint review team and for its recommendations, which will allow us to further improve our processes as we move forward."

The review team outlined four recommended improvements for Boeing. Three of the recommendations focus on improving the flow of information, standards and expectations between the company and its suppliers. Boeing has already taken significant steps to implement these recommendations.

The fourth recommendation encourages Boeing to continue implementing and maturing the gated processes for development programs.

"Gated process" refers to the disciplined criteria followed as a new airplane model is developed. This ensures a sufficient level of maturity is gained before a program proceeds to key milestones such as design completion, production start and entry into service.

Boeing has made a range of improvements to its airplane development processes since the start of the 787 program. These efforts included a restructuring last year to bring all commercial airplane development programs under one umbrella organization.

The report will be posted by the FAA here.

Contact:
Lori Gunter
787 Communications
Boeing Commercial Airplanes
+1 206 931 5919
loretta.m.gunter@boeing.com

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