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SEATTLE, Aug. 6, 2014 – The 15th P-8A Poseidon built by Boeing [NYSE: BA] arrives at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., where it will help expand the U.S. Navy's long-range maritime patrol capabilities.

The aircraft, delivered on schedule July 31st, joined the other Poseidon aircraft being used to train Navy crews in preparation for deployment.

The delivery follows Patrol Squadron (VP) 16's recent return home from the P-8A's first operational deployment. The 'War Eagles' of VP-16 were deployed for seven months, operating out of Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan. They were recently replaced by the 'Mad Foxes' of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5.

Boeing is currently on contract to build and support 53 P-8A aircraft. The Navy plans to purchase 117 P-8As, which are based on the Next-Generation Boeing 737-800 platform. The versatile multi-mission aircraft provides anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities and will replace the Navy P-3 fleet.

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Photo credit: Boeing

Contact:

Chick Ramey Boeing Defense, Space & Security Mobile: 206-851-4147 <u>charles.b.ramey@boeing.com</u>

LaToya Graddy U.S. Navy 301-757-8690 latoya.graddy@navy.mil

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