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FARNBOROUGH, UNITED KINGDOM, July 11, 2016 – Boeing [NYSE: BA] will deliver 50 AH-64E Apache attack helicopters to the British Army under an agreement signed between the U.S. and UK governments, the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) announced today. The agreement is also a precursor to potential, significant long-term support opportunities for Boeing.

David Pitchforth, vice president and managing director of Boeing Defence UK Limited, said: “This is not only a major boost to the British Army but it will also mean long-term, sustained jobs in the UK as the vast majority of the training, maintenance, repair and overhaul will be done here over the service life of the aircraft. We are working closely with our extensive UK supply chain, including Leonardo Finmeccanica Helicopters (Leonardo), to support initial operating capability of the aircraft in 2022”.

Boeing has a long-standing relationship with Leonardo on the existing Apache programme. Boeing will support UK prosperity through increasing spend with UK suppliers and is in advanced discussions with Leonardo on the AH-64E contract and other opportunities.

To date, Boeing has delivered 149 AH-64Es to the U.S Army, logging more than 60,000 flight hours and 17,000 combat flying hours. The Apache performs across the full spectrum of operations and as a force multiplier for combat commanders and supports the safe return of troops.

Boeing has 2,000 employees across the UK at numerous sites, from Glasgow to Gosport, and the company is experiencing solid organic growth. Today the UK remains a critically important market, supplier base and a source of some of the world’s most inventive technology partners. Boeing’s expenditure with the UK aerospace industry in 2015 was £1.8 billion and the company’s activities worldwide support more than 60,000 UK jobs, in the process enhancing skills, facilitating exports and generating intellectual property. For more information visit www.boeing.co.uk or follow us on Twitter @BoeingUK.

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