Boeing Flies Production Configuration AH-6i Light Helicopter for the 1st Time

Program moves another step closer to full-scale production

MESA, Ariz., May 1, 2014 -- Boeing's [NYSE: BA] AH-6i light attack/reconnaissance helicopter has flown for the first time in its production configuration, moving the program another step closer to full-scale production while continuing to prove the helicopter's close air support and attack capabilities.

Boeing pilots flew the aircraft for less than 20-minutes at low speeds in forward, rearward and sideward flight at low elevations during a recent test. Future tests will expand the flight envelope over the next several months.

"This first AH-6 flight in the production configuration takes us closer to delivering an advanced light attack and reconnaissance helicopter that meets the needs of defense forces around the world," said Boeing AH-6 Program Director Scott Rudy.

The AH-6i is a single-turbine helicopter that is based on the combat-proven OH-6A Cayuse. It is an advanced variant of the AH-6M helicopter operated by the U.S. Army Special Operations Forces. It incorporates advanced technologies from the Boeing AH-64E Apache multirole attack helicopter that give it superior performance over other aircraft in its class.

The helicopter is intended to provide close-air support for land-based forces and serve as an attack platform for destroying tanks, armored vehicles and fortifications.

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 $33 billion business with 57,000 employees worldwide. Follow us on Twitter: @BoeingDefense.

# # #

Contact:

Malley Hislop
Boeing Vertical Lift Communications
Office: +1 480-891-2147
Mobile: +1 480-334-4031
malley.t.hislop@boeing.com

Hal Klopper
Boeing Defense, Space & Security International Communications
Office: +1 480-891-5519
Mobile: +1 602-391-7489
harold.g.klopper@boeing.com

Additional assets available online: Photos (2)