Boeing, Ferra Expand Precision Aerial Munition Partnership

- Agreement deepens Boeing's work with key Australian industry partner

- Boeing continues to strengthen Australian domestic capabilities with Ferra and foster closer integration with U.S. defense industrial base

BRISBANE, Oct. 24, 2023—Boeing [NYSE: BA] and Australia industry partner Ferra Engineering signed a Memorandum of Understanding to continue production of Joint Direct Attack Munition Extended Range (JDAM ER) wing kits. The agreement also includes the intent to explore applications for Powered JDAM — a long-range, low-cost and mass-producible JDAM derivative capable of travelling upwards of 300 nautical miles.

Brisbane-based Ferra is Boeing's global supplier of the 500-pound JDAM ER wing kits. Under the memorandum, the partnership will be extended through 2028. The partnership aligns with the Australian Defence Force's commitment to enhance sovereign weapons capability under the Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance (GWEO) Enterprise and aligns with the AUKUS security partnership goal of advancing trilateral defence capabilities.

"These wing kits developed by Australia's Defence Science and Technology Group and produced for Boeing by Ferra in collaboration with U.S partners are a success story for Australian industry," said Bob Ciesla, vice president of Boeing Precision Engagement Systems. "Our participation in Defence's Global Supply Chain (GSC) Program helped enable the partnership on JDAM ER wing kits and now opportunities for Powered JDAM."

"Powered JDAM will exponentially increase the effective range of the munition, and alongside the JDAM ER, will effectively and affordably meet a variety of defence needs around the world," Ciesla said.

Chief of Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance, Air Marshal Leon Phillips, praised the joint efforts of the Defence Science and Technology Group, Boeing and Ferra.

"This project is a great example of Australian industry working with Defence to the great benefit of one of our key allies, the United States," he said.

The JDAM ER kits triple the effective range of the standard JDAM — a low-cost option to convert the existing munitions into guided smart munitions.

"The RAAF was Boeing's first JDAM ER customer and we have partnered with Boeing for 12 years to produce this critical global defence capability," said Aaron Thompson, managing director of Ferra Engineering. "This assures our production pipeline and paves the way for continued innovation, such as Powered JDAM."

"The expanded partnership further strengthens Australian industry's capacity to contribute to the future needs of the Australian Defence Force and support its priorities to deter aggression and defend our country and our allies in the rapidly evolving threat environment," Thompson said.

# # #

As a leading global aerospace company, Boeing develops, manufactures and services commercial airplanes, defense products and space systems for customers in more than 150 countries. As a top U.S. exporter, the company leverages the talents of a global supplier base to advance economic opportunity, sustainability and community impact. Boeing's diverse team is committed to innovating for the future, leading with sustainability, and cultivating a culture based on the company's core values of safety, quality and integrity. Join our team and find your purpose at boeing.com/careers.

Contact:
Melanie de Git
Boeing Communications
+61 (423) 829505
melanie.degit@boeing.com

Boeing Media Relations
media@boeing.com

Additional assets available online: Photos (4)