



News from the Boeing world



July 2010



Boeing Australia & South Pacific



Configuration complete

Boeing has completed the firm configuration for the 787-9 Dreamliner. This means the airplane's structural, propulsion and systems architectures are defined and not changing. The first 787-9 delivery is scheduled for late 2013.

1,000 hours flying

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner flight test fleet passed 1,000 hours of testing on June 16. The program estimates that it is about 40 percent through the test conditions required to certify the first version of the all-new jetliner. Follow the progress of 787 flight test at 787flighttest.com.

Program launched

Steve Parker, Vice President and Managing Director of Boeing Defence Australia's Network & Space Systems division, spoke at the recent launch of Queensland University of Technology's (QUT) new Executive Master of Business in Complex Project Management. Boeing helped develop the Masters and has four staff enrolled in the government-funded course for project managers seeking to enhance their leadership and business acumen. Parker is also the executive focal for QUT under Boeing's global University Relations program that has invested \$350,000 since 2008 in four focal Australian universities to encourage student's interest in aerospace-related careers or research.

More Super Hornets touch down

Six new Boeing F/A-18F Super Hornets have arrived at Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Amberley.

The July 6 touchdown expands the RAAF's fleet to 11 next-generation, multi-role air combat aircraft. All 11 aircraft have been delivered ahead of schedule and on budget.

Senator John Faulkner, Minister for Defence, said the Super Hornet acquisition project continues to be a major success.

"It is delivering a quantum leap in air combat capability to Air Force, on-time and on-budget. This project is a great example of what can be achieved through a strong Defence and industry partnership," he said.

The RAAF plans to achieve Initial Operating Capability for the Super Hornets later this year.

Group Captain Steve Robertson, Officer Commanding 82 Wing, said the RAAF was broadening its training to prepare for the milestone. "Our aircrews and support teams continue to be very impressed with the Super Hornet's remarkable capabilities, performance and reliability," he said.

The first five Super Hornets arrived on March 26. Australia will have all 24 aircraft in 2011.



Three of the next six F/A-18F Super Hornets taxi down the runway at RAAF Base Amberley. Photo: Defence.

Watch this (air)space: Jeppesen wins CASA approval

Airspace management at Australia's airports could be radically improved following Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) approval to allow Boeing subsidiary Jeppesen to create Performance Based Navigation (PBN) procedures here, making it the only third-party provider certified to deliver both PBN and conventional navigation procedures.

With its Australian headquarters in Canberra, Jeppesen was established over 75 years ago as a business providing flight charts to pilots. Today it is one of the world's leading navigation, operations, and logistics information companies with a range of customers across air, sea and land.

PBN is a navigational service that improves utilisation and safety at airports by providing precise tracking of planes that reduces margin of error for approaches and departures. These procedures can be designed by Jeppesen for broad use by all aircraft types flying into a particular airport, for a specific aircraft type or for individual airline needs.

"There are a number of underserved airports in Australia that could really benefit from adoption of PBN as it provides increased flexibility of usage," said Richard Low, general manager, Jeppesen Australia.

"For airlines the use of PBN systems can bring enormous fuel and time-saving efficiencies," he said. "In addition to airports and airlines, we're also in discussion with specialist outfits like Royal Flying Doctors Services which needs to fly into some fairly remote airports and is keen to identify the most efficient and safest ways to do this."

Jeppesen see enormous potential for its services across Australia – from major metropolitan airports to those serving smaller regional areas.

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Boeing enhances tax certainty under new agreement

Boeing Australia has joined a growing number of large companies seeking certainty in their tax affairs by entering into an annual compliance arrangement (ACA) with the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

The ACA relates to Boeing's Goods and Services Tax (GST) obligations.

Tax Commissioner Michael D'Ascenzo said under an ACA, companies can tell the ATO what they think their tax risks are and discuss how they have mitigated these risks.

"In return, we will give taxpayers a significant level of practical certainty," Mr D'Ascenzo said.

"Taxpayers are able to manage their compliance with 'no surprises' if they have disclosed and discussed their areas of risk with us.

"They can also operate with little or no exposure to penalties or interest."

Ian Thomas, President of Boeing Australia & South Pacific, said the arrangement reflects the strong commitment Boeing has towards high standards of compliance and ethical business conduct.

"Operating across both the aerospace and defence sectors presents us with unique challenges, and this arrangement will help both Boeing and the ATO resolve these in a practical and timely manner," Mr Thomas said.

"In today's business environment, the cost of non compliance is growing both in commercial and legal terms. Anything we can do to reduce risk and uncertainty can only benefit our business.

"Actively engaging with the ATO through this arrangement helps build competitive advantage for Boeing."

The agreement with Boeing is the eighth ACA which has been signed.



Australian Tax Commissioner Michael D'Ascenzo (first row, from left to right) with President of Boeing Australia & South Pacific Ian Thomas, Boeing Senior Manager - International Taxation Robert Marxen, Boeing Senior Tax Accountant - International Matthew Egghins and representatives from the Australian Tax Office (back row) at the agreement signing.

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One type of PBN procedure in demand for airports regularly affected by adverse weather conditions or where terrain is difficult, is Required Navigation Performance that is being successfully used in places like mountainous Queenstown, New Zealand, and could be developed for a number of Australian airports.

For smaller airports, Jeppesen's PBN procedures can remove the need to make capital investments in ground radar to see efficient and safety improvements in their operations. Jeppesen's PBN services like RNAV simply use the existing GPS technology on board most modern aircraft types to determine the position, enabling more efficient use of airspace for take-offs and landings.

The CASA certification means Jeppesen is able to design tailored flight procedures that airports can use for all airline customers or for individual airlines who want to invest in their own navigational services.

Low believes this could extend to smaller airlines servicing the mining industry around Australia where the boom means greater numbers of employees being flown in and out of remote airports at varying times of day and conditions.

All types of airlines, airports and most sophisticated PBN systems designed by Jeppesen require an investment in training by the airlines which the company provides.

The certification process was fairly rigorous with Jeppesen documenting its expertise and capabilities to CASA, providing multiple examples of each procedure type, and a review of the company's training records and credentials.

Jeppesen holds similar certification from the US Federal Aviation Administration and has also designed PBN and conventional procedures in China, Taiwan, Panama, New Zealand, Bermuda, Bahamas, Kuwait and Oman.

First locally trained RAAF C-17 pilots graduate

Boeing Defence Australia has delivered Australia's first in-country training program for Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) C-17 Globemaster III pilots.

Flight Lieutenant David Whyte and Pilot Officer Stephen Maunder completed their initial pilot qualification training in May after more than 350 hours of training from Boeing Defence Australia instructors at RAAF Base Amberley.

Their training included 120 simulated flight hours in the Boeing-developed C-17 Globemaster III Aircrew Training System.

"There is no doubt in my mind the Boeing-delivered training has equipped me with the tools and



FLTLT David Whyte is one of the first C-17 pilots to graduate in Australia from the C-17 Pilot Initial Qualification Course at RAAF Base Amberley. Photo: Defence

knowledge required for my career as a C-17 pilot," said PLTOFF Maunder.

"I've achieved my goal to become a C-17 pilot and look forward to supporting the C-17 strategic airlift capability for national and international operations."

Quick fix found for Chinook

An international Boeing effort has returned an Australian Army CH-47D Chinook helicopter to operations after a fuel tube was damaged on deployment.

Boeing's CH-47 team in Philadelphia immediately sent a replacement, however, the Australian Army needed spares in case of a repeat incident.

With a 16 month wait for spares from the United States supplier, Boeing Defence Australia stepped in with a solution in a fraction of the time.

The Maintenance Support Services team at Royal Australian Air Force Base Amberley, under its CH-47 Manufacturing Licence Agreement, was able to manufacture the spares locally in 45 days.

The fuel tubes are now on-hand for Australia's deployed troops.



Jeremy Harrison (left) and Eric Bruner with the CH-47D fuel tube manufactured by Boeing Defence Australia. Photo: Heidi Snowden.



The medium dependency pallet inside the Boeing 757. Photo: NZDF

New Zealand Air Force 757 gets ambulance capability

The Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) is developing an Aeromedical (AME) or air ambulance capability to safely transfer patients around the world in its Boeing 757 aircraft.

The AME platform will provide care for a wide range of situations from minor illness and injury to critical care. Due to its unique set up it has the ability to complete hospital to hospital transfer on a single stretcher.

It is designed as a roll-on roll-off palletised system and includes a High Dependency pallet for a critical care patient, work station pallet and medium dependency pallet that cares two patients.

The AME pallets were installed and test flown on Monday 14 June. The fully capability will be realized in 12-18 months.

The RNZAF operates two Boeing 757s for in various roles including VIP, passenger only, freight only, combination of passengers and freight and now the AME role.

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Velocity

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Boeing engineer named young industry ambassador

Boeing Aerostructures Australia (BAA) employee Carolyn Tan has been named a Young Industry Ambassador by the State Government of Victoria.

She received the honour for her outstanding commitment to the promotion of the local manufacturing industry.

"It means a great deal to me that I've been chosen represent this great industry of ours. I want to encourage young people to consider a career in manufacturing and engineering," Tan said.

Tan's responsibilities as a Young Industry Ambassador will include visiting schools to talk about her career and potentially hosting students at her worksite.

Mark Ross, Managing Director of BAA, congratulated Tan on her selection. "We are very proud of her and I've no doubt that she has a great future in aerospace and engineering," Ross said.

Tan works as a Manufacturing Quality Engineer with the 787 Moveable

Trailing Edge (MTE) line at BAA in Fishermans Bend, Melbourne.

She contributes to developments and innovations in the quality of parts manufactured on the line, which is the largest aerospace contract ever undertaken in Australia and worth AU\$4 billion over 20 years.

"I'm extremely proud of what we have achieved here with 787 Dreamliner MTE line," Tan added.

"We're at the cutting edge of composite manufacturing technologies here at BAA and I'm truly glad to be involved in such significant work for Australia and the company."

Under the Young Industry Ambassador program the Victorian Government annually appoints an apprentice, trainee or graduate who promotes a passionate, positive and relevant message about the career choices available in manufacturing and engineering.

Tan was presented with the award at a 2010 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame Gala Dinner in Melbourne, Australia, on June 2.



Carolyn Tan of BAA has been named a Young Industry Ambassador for her contribution toward promoting the manufacturing and engineering industry in Victoria, Australia.