

## Feature Story

# Boeing engages AirFab to build safety stands for RAAF Super Hornets and Growlers

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Boeing Defence Australia has contracted Victorian small business AirFab to manufacture aircraft safety stands used in the maintenance of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) fleet of F/A-18 Super Hornets and EA-18G Growlers.

The contract is for the design, fabrication and supply of the workstands, which provide fall protection for RAAF and Boeing personnel when working on top of and around the aircraft.

AirFab, an Australian-owned business that specialises in engineering aluminium fabrication of access platforms for the aircraft and transport industries, will manufacture the five sets of stands from its facility in Ferntree Gully, east of Melbourne.

The workstands will enhance employee safety and boost program efficiency by reducing maintenance timeframes.

“Boeing is committed to identifying opportunities to build Australia’s sovereign capabilities and expand the use of Australian industry in supporting our aircraft programs,” said Boeing’s Air Combat Electronic Attack Sustainment Program manager Chris Gray.

“AirFab is a great example of the ingenuity of Australian small-and-medium enterprises in providing innovative local solutions and the highest levels of availability for Australia’s frontline aircraft.

“Safety is incredibly important to us – and AirFab’s workstands enhance the protection and productivity of RAAF and Boeing technicians tasked with maintaining the Super Hornet and Growler aircraft.”