



News from the Boeing world

January 2011

Boeing Australia & South Pacific

**Boeing employees around the world offer support for flood victims**

Boeing employees have responded to the Queensland flood emergency by digging deep to support the Premier's Disaster Relief Fund.

The company's Global Corporate Citizenship division has established an online donation link to the Queensland flood appeal through Boeing's *My Community Giving* fund. And employees around the world have responded with donations.

Boeing President and Chief Executive Officer Jim McNerney announced that the company would also make a contribution through its disaster relief fund, dollar-matching employee contributions up to US\$50,000.

Boeing employees have a long tradition of joining forces to support communities in need in Australia and around the world.

Employees contributed more than \$150,000 to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal in 2009, in addition to a \$50,000 contribution from the company.

"This giving effort is emblematic of the generosity of the people of Boeing, who in the past three years also have opened their hearts and wallets through our Special Appeals portal to help victims of earthquakes in China, Haiti and Italy; a cyclone in Myanmar; a typhoon in the Philippines; wildfires in Australia; and hurricanes and flooding in the United States," McNerney said.

By January 28, Boeing employees had contributed more than \$100,000 to the relief appeal.

# Boeing rises to meet flood crisis

The floodwaters which devastated much of south east Queensland throughout December and January impacted Boeing operations in Brisbane and affected many employees.

A number of Boeing offices and facilities were closed during the peak of the flooding, including Boeing Defence Australia's Brisbane office and operations at RAAF Bases Amberley and Oakey, Boeing Training & Flight Services, Boeing Commercial Airplane Field Services, Jeppesen, Insitu Pacific and Boeing Research and Technology-Australia offices in Brisbane.

While for many employees, the focus was on protecting property and assisting family and friends as the floodwaters struck, some Boeing Defence Australia employees were involved in critical aspects of the emergency response.

At Oakey, the Army Aviation Training & Training Support (AATTS) team maintained six of the military aircraft deployed for flood recovery operations.

A team of AATTS employees from Holsworthy, NSW, was also flown

to Amberley to provide further maintenance support.

Others played a more direct role in the rescue efforts. Under the direction of the ADF, Brian Lugg, AATTS senior instructor – Black Hawk, and Bob Ulmer, AATTS qualified flying instructor – Black Hawk, operated Army Black Hawk A25-204 to transport Queensland Police and disaster teams from Brisbane to devastated areas in the Lockyer Valley to begin the aerial search for missing persons, and deliver much-needed medical supplies to Toowoomba.

"I'm incredibly proud of how our employees responded to this emergency," said president of Boeing Australia and South Pacific Ian Thomas.

"Boeing is an integral part of the communities in which we operate: while that's something we celebrate during good times, its times like this when the community is in real need that we're able to really draw on our strength and commitment to these communities."



Australian Defence Force's Black Hawk helicopters – maintained and supported by Boeing Defence Australia's Army Aviation Training & Training Support unit – played a critical role evacuating residents during the flood rescue effort. Photograph by: Petty Officer Damian Pawlenko (Defence).

### 777 production rate increase

Boeing will increase the production rate of its 777 program to 8.3 aircraft per month in the first quarter 2013.

Announcement of the latest production rate rise followed an announcement in March 2010 that production rates would increase from five to seven aircraft per month beginning in mid-2011.

“In response to strong customer demand globally, we are increasing our yearly production to 100 777s,” said Boeing Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Jim Albaugh.

The 777 has a large installed operator base, and a track record of proven performance including 1,163 orders, 907 deliveries and a backlog of more than 250 aircraft.

### 787 Dreamliner flight tests resume

Flight test activities on the 787 Dreamliner program resumed in December after Boeing installed an interim version of updated power distribution system software and conducted a rigorous set of reviews to confirm the flight readiness of ZA004, the first of the six flight test aircraft that will return to flight.

“Initially, we will resume a series of Boeing tests that remain to be completed in the flight test program. That testing will be followed later by a resumption of certification testing,” said Scott Fancher, vice president and general manager of the 787 program.

“As we return to flight test and determine the pace of that activity, we remain focused on developing a new program schedule,” Fancher added. “We expect to complete our assessment of the program schedule in January.”

Flight testing of the 787 was suspended in November following an in-flight electrical incident on a test flight in Laredo, Texas.



## Air New Zealand's new Boeing 777-300ER home for Christmas

Air New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Rob Fyfe described it as “the best Christmas present we could possibly imagine” when the airline took delivery of its new Boeing 777-300 Extended Range in Seattle just in time for Christmas.

However, as much of the world-wide media coverage of the aircraft delivery has pointed out, it is the passengers who will reap the rewards of this delivery.

The first of Air New Zealand's 777-300ERs features an innovative interior with a number of new passenger experiences, from a new menu and on-demand in-seat ordering system for all cabins to new seats, including the Sky Couch which allows economy class passengers to lie down like they would



Air New Zealand's Sky Couch economy seat

on a couch at home.

Other features of the distinctly Kiwi interior include:

- Two new Premium Economy seating designs
- Induction ovens in all cabins
- A pillow that slips onto the winged headrest in economy
- Unique lavatory imagery and wallpaper

And while the 777-300ER cabin enabled Air New Zealand to set new standards in onboard amenity, the efficiencies of the world's most successful twin-engine, twin-aisle aircraft were another important factor for the airline.

“The Boeing 777-300ER was an excellent choice for the routes Air New Zealand operates, especially given its 15 percent fuel efficiency improvements over current aircraft and excellent customer proposition,” said Air New Zealand Group General Manager, International Airline, Ed Sims.

Air New Zealand will take delivery of an additional four 777-300ERs, complementing the eight 777-200ERs already in its long haul fleet.

## Boeing delivers another four RAAF Super Hornets ahead of schedule

Boeing delivered four new F/A-18F Super Hornets to Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Amberley last month, expanding the RAAF's fleet of the advanced multirole fighters to 15 – all delivered ahead of schedule.

The delivery enabled the RAAF's achievement of Initial Operating Capability with its first Super Hornet squadron, the Amberley-based No. 1.

Three aircraft in the latest delivery were prewired during production at Boeing facilities in St. Louis for potential conversion to electronic attack capability; the remaining nine aircraft in the contract will be prewired in the same way before delivery to the RAAF's No. 6 Squadron.

"The Boeing Super Hornet team has surpassed expectations by delivering 15 aircraft to the RAAF in 2010 instead



of the 12 originally scheduled," said Carolyn Nichols, Australian Super Hornet program manager for Boeing.

"We are fully committed to ensuring the same delivery success and budget excellence throughout 2011."

The Australian government announced in March 2007 that it would acquire 24 of the advanced Block II versions of the Super Hornet, all of which are equipped with the Raytheon-built APG-79 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar.

## F-111 flies into the history books

On 3 December, the last F-111 aircraft to be operated anywhere in the world was wheeled into the hangar after its final flight. For almost 40 years, it was Australia's frontline strike aircraft, working alongside the country's fleet of F/A-18 A/B Hornets to protect Australia.

For Boeing Defence Australia, the F-111 retirement was particularly poignant. For more than a decade, the company performed significant repairs, modifications and upgrades that enhanced the fleet's lethality and survivability, including the design and development of radar warning, electronic warfare and Stand-Off Weapon modifications, a wing recovery program, and multiple software enhancements.

"Under the F-111 program, Boeing Defence Australia worked with the RAAF to help transform one of the

oldest strike aircraft still operating in the world into a powerful frontline war fighter that competed on an equal footing with the latest military hardware," said John Duddy, Boeing Defence Australia's Vice President and Managing Director.

"We are justifiably proud of the positive impact we had on this iconic Australian aircraft."



### Boeing-built C-17 clocks two million flight hours milestone

The worldwide fleet of C-17 Globemaster III airlifters built by The Boeing Company surpassed two million flying hours during an airdrop mission over Afghanistan last month.

Reaching two million flight hours equates to 1.13 billion nautical miles – the equivalent of a C-17 flying to the moon and back 2,360 times.

The representative mission, flown by a US Air Force C-17, airdropped 74,000 pounds of jet fuel in support of US and coalition troops just south of Kabul.

Boeing has delivered 20 C-17s to international customers, including the Royal Australian Air Force. The RAAF operates four Boeing C-17s and last year began using them to perform paratrooper and platform drops.

With 226 airlifters in service around the world, the C-17 fleet continues to operate at an accelerated rate due to the recent troop surge in Afghanistan, reaching the 2 million flight-hours milestone less than five years after reaching 1 million flight hours in March 2006, when 152 C-17s were in service.

The C-17 fleet, now in its 17th year of service, has supported humanitarian and disaster-relief missions worldwide.

"There's tremendous satisfaction in knowing that in those 2 million hours, the C-17 fleet has saved countless lives around the world," said Bob Ciesla, Boeing C-17 program manager.

### Aviation media awards

More than 85 people gathered in Sydney last month for the 11th Australia and New Zealand Aviation Media Awards, celebrating the best in local media reporting.

The winners included:

Aviation News Story of the Year winner Matt O'Sullivan, *Sydney Morning Herald*; runner-up Andrew McLaughlin, *Australian Aviation*.

Aviation Feature of the Year winner Doug Nancarrow, *Aviation Business*; runner-up Rob Neil, *Pacific Wings Magazine*.

Aviation Technical Story of the Year winner Paul Phelan, aviation.advertiser.com; runner-up John Mulcair, *Flight Safety Australia*.

Aviation Defence Story of the Year winner Andrew McLaughlin, *Australian Aviation*; runner-up Gregor Ferguson, *Australian Defence Magazine*.

Aviation Photograph of the Year winner Andrew Gorrie, *The Dominion Post*; runner-up: Paul Sadler, *Australian Aviation*.

*Australian Aviation* deputy editor Andrew McLaughlin was named Aviation Journalist of the Year. Ben Sandilands was named runner-up.

## Boeing delivers 462 aircraft, books another 530 as airlines expand

Boeing delivered 462 commercial aircraft in 2010 and posted 530 net commercial orders for the year as airlines transition from economic recovery to expansion. Commercial Airplanes maintains a strong order base of 3,443 unfilled orders.

"With 376 deliveries in 2010, the Next-Generation 737 set a company delivery record for the second consecutive year," said Jim Albaugh, president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

"The 737 is the industry's most in-demand aircraft with 486 net orders as carriers continue to rely on its superior economics, versatility, and continuous performance enhancements."

The 777 led Boeing's twin-aisle programs with 74 deliveries and 46 net orders in 2010 as the aircraft continues to rank at the top of operator, investor, and frequent traveller polls for its efficiency and passenger comfort.

During 2010, Boeing announced a series of production rate increases throughout its product line to meet increasing demand from carriers worldwide. The Next-Generation 737 production rate will grow to 35 per month in early 2012 and 38 per month the second quarter of 2013.

The 777 production rate will rise from 5 to 7 per month in mid 2011 and grow to 8.3 per month in the first quarter of 2013.

The 747-8 Freighter is slated for first delivery mid-year and first delivery of the 747-8 Intercontinental is planned for late 2011. The 787 Dreamliner continues in flight test.

Boeing Commercial Airplanes highlights in 2010 included:

- Flight testing of six 787 Dreamliner aircraft passes 2,400 hours.
- Pilots from ANA, the first 787 customer, fly the Dreamliner.
- 747-8 Freighter surpasses 1,500 flight hours.
- 900th 777 delivery.
- 747-8 Intercontinental reaches final assembly and achieves power on.
- 1,000th 767 prepares to enter Final Assembly
- First deliveries of Next-Generation 737s with the new Boeing Sky Interior.
- Launching 787 GoldCare with TUI Travel – first of new comprehensive service offerings for customers.
- On-time performance for urgent customer support requests of 99 percent through the Operations Centre.

## Aussie solar car sets world speed record

The Australian-built solar race Sunswift IV has set a new Guinness World Land-Speed record for a solar-powered vehicle, clocking an average speed of 88km/h over 500 metres on January 7, 2011 during a time trial at HMAS Albatross naval base at Nowra on the NSW south coast.

Sunswift IV was built and designed by students at the University of NSW at Boeing Aerostructures Australia's (BAA) Bankstown facility, utilising BAA materials, equipment and experience.



### Velocity

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