



News from the Boeing world



October 2009



Boeing Australia & South Pacific



Modernised High Frequency Communications System enters service

Boeing Defence Australia's Modernised High Frequency Communication System (MHFCS) for Australian Defence Force (ADF) successfully entered into service last month.

The MHFCS provides a world-leading communication system to securely transmit voice and data services to remote stations where traditional telephone services are limited or unavailable.

"Boeing's MHFCS team has built and delivered the most advanced high frequency system in the world," said Nan Bouchard, vice president and general manager of Boeing C3 Networks. "This is an outstanding achievement and a true indication of Boeing's commitment to developing advanced technology solutions globally for our customers."

"With international markets already showing interest in the system, MHFCS has the capacity to change HF communications globally," said Steve Parker, vice president and general manager of Boeing Network and Space Systems – Australia. "It can provide nations with the highest level of global connectivity while, for the first time, maintaining their national sovereignty and information security."

The recently delivered final system provides greater levels of automation, performance and capability for ADF users, including two generic mobile upgrade systems – one land-and-sea component and one air platforms component. Work has now commenced to complete the major remaining work scope by upgrading the backup control centre to the same configuration as the operational main control centre.

Boeing and FedEx celebrated the delivery of their first 777 Freighter.

The 777 Freighter is the world's largest and most capable twinjet freighter and will help FedEx Express deliver more cargo even faster, allowing the carrier to offer customers greater flexibility. The aircraft is the ninth 777 Freighter to be delivered.

Boeing Defence Australia received an Engineering Excellence Award, Resource Development Category, from the Queensland Division of Engineers Australia in recognition of its best practices in support of Australia's F-111 strike aircraft.

Boeing has shipped the third Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) satellite built for the U.S. Air Force to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station where it will be tested and prepared for a November launch. WGS-3 completes the initial constellation of three WGS satellites. The second WGS satellite began supporting on-the-ground warfighters on August 18 and the first began supporting U.S. and allied operations across the entire Pacific in April 2008 and has met and exceeded the Air Force's expectations. Australia has bought into the WGS constellation by buying the sixth WGS.



Jean Batten makes it 75, with Qantas' remarkable milestone of 737 deliveries

The third P-8A Poseidon flight test aircraft, T3, soars over Puget Sound on its maiden flight. T3 is the program's mission system and weapon certification aircraft and will enter the Navy's formal flight test program next year.

Third P-8A Poseidon completes 1st flight

Boeing's third P-8A Poseidon flight test aircraft, T3, completed a successful first flight, taking off from Renton Field at 12:13 p.m. Pacific time and landing three hours and one minute later at Boeing Field.

During the flight pilots Craig Bomben and Chris Dobb performed a series of flight checks and took the aircraft to a maximum altitude of 25,000ft.

"Today's flight is another important milestone for the program," said Chuck Dabundo, P-8A deputy program manager. "T3 is our mission system and weapon certification aircraft and will enter the formal flight test program next year."

The P-8A team is currently assembling and testing five aircraft: two for ground testing and three for flight testing. Test aircraft T1, which made its first flight April 25, will enter the U.S. Navy's formal flight test program in the coming weeks.

The Navy plans to purchase 117 P-8As to replace its fleet of P-3C aircraft. Initial operational capability is planned for 2013.

Jean Batten was a spirited pioneer aviatrix who broke numerous world flying records in the 1930s and was renowned for her striking looks, so it seems only fitting that Qantas has named its 75th Boeing 737 after the legendary New Zealand pilot.

It was only 23 years ago with Australian Airlines that the first 737 entered service (purchased later by Qantas), and today the airline has 62 B737s in its fleet with many of their earlier model 737-300s now retired.

Naturally the newest 737 to join the Qantas fleet is a Next Generation -800 and has been deployed by the airline on trans-Tasman routes for Jetconnect services.

The new aircraft features a special 75th commemorative 'Jean Batten' decal as well as the distinctive,

Qantas-specified, 2.5m high blended winglets that improve the payload and range of the aircraft.

"Qantas has been a key supporter of the B737," says Rick Westmoreland, vice president – sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "We've worked very closely with them over the years on the development and design of this aircraft model to produce the most economical, fast and efficient single aisle plane on the market today."

Airlines have purchased more 737s than any other commercial jet aircraft in history.

Qantas bought its first 737-800 jets in 2002 in one of the fastest aircraft deliveries in history with the handover of the first plane just 100 days after the contract was signed.



Unveiling of Qantas' 75th 737-800 (Photo: Peter Clark)



RAAA/Jeppesen Pilot Scholarship recipient Callum Larkham (centre) with RAAA CEO Paul Tyrrell (left) and Jeppesen Australia general manager Richard Low (right)

Scholarship awarded to aspiring young pilot

Individuals seeking a career in the aviation industry as a commercial pilot have been given a boost by the introduction of the annual Regional Aviation Association of Australia (RAAA) and Jeppesen Pilot scholarship.

The \$5000 scholarship is intended to assist and encourage the continuing education of a promising pilot.

The inaugural scholarship was awarded to Brindabella Airlines Flight Training student pilot Callum Larkham who has been flying since he was a teenager. Larkham already has his private pilot's licence but aspires to be a commercial pilot. The scholarship will help him to meet the cost of commercial pilot training which costs about \$80,000 to \$100,000.

The scholarship is jointly organised by the RAAA, a non-profit association which promotes a safe and viable regional aviation industry, and Jeppesen Australia, a subsidiary of The Boeing Company that provides advanced flight information solutions and navigational data.

Aerospace takes to the road to help the environment

Employees at Boeing Aerostructures Australia have thrown their weight behind a University of New South Wales solar car to help make it lighter and stronger.

The university team will be driving Sunswift IV, or IVy, in the 3000km Darwin to Adelaide solar road race over five days and again enlisted the composite expertise of BAA's Bankstown, NSW, team.

IVy is the same size as an average family sedan but half the height, and only 1/10th of the weight. Powered by the sun and creating no emissions during the operational cycle, the car has a top speed of 115km/h and a cruising speed of about 85km/h.

This performance is achieved using the amount of power needed to toast two slices of bread (1300 Watts).

Sunswift has been UNSW's flagship engineering project since 1995, and

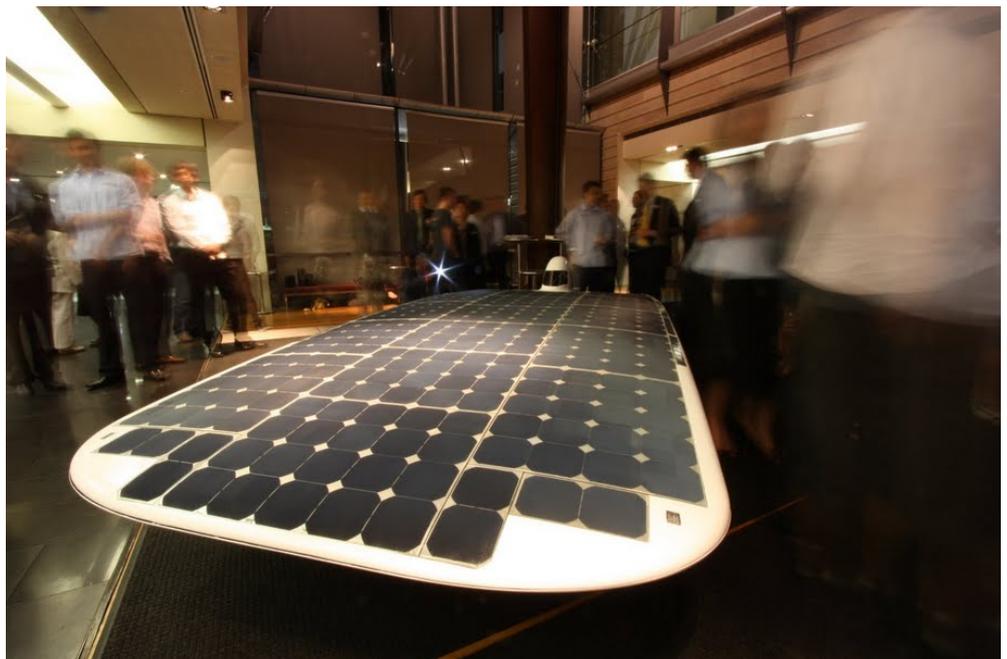
a previous car set the transcontinental record from Perth to Sydney in 2007.

The BAA Bankstown team has helped the UNSW team with its solar race challengers since 1997. "It is great to support one of our focal universities with such a cutting edge project," said Mark Croucher, BAA Composites Manufacturing Engineer.

"The students used our clean room facilities, autoclaves and tooling to prepare and use the IV moulds. We are very proud that a significant proportion of the car was made using BAA resources, surplus materials and facilities."

While IVy is very much a one-off, her innovations may surface in mass produced cars in the future.

Track IVy's progress from October 24 on www.sunswift.com



Launch of the University of New South Wales Sunswift IV solar car (Photo: UNSW)

International marketing of Boeing's Modernised High Frequency Communications System planned

Boeing Defence Australia (BDA) and global wireless and broadcast infrastructure specialist Radio Frequency Systems (RFS) will jointly market Boeing's Modernised High Frequency Communications System (MHFCS) internationally.

The Memorandum of Agreement establishes that following award of a MHFCS contract, RFS will provide its antenna systems – known as antenna rosette – to complement Boeing's system.

Prior to a contract being awarded, BDA and RFS will share in presenting and demonstrating the system to military, government and telecommunication providers around the world.

The MHFCS is one of the first Boeing high-value products developed outside the United States for international sale. The system facilitates the secure exchange of information and data such as voice, e-mail, facsimile and Web browsing between fixed and mobile stations via high frequency communications.

www.boeing.com.au

Velocity

Editor: Ken Morton
Content: Gail D'Arcy
Emma Hodsdon
Fiona Tristram

E-mail: emma.hodsdon@boeing.com

Phone: +612-9086 3300

History made at 2009 UAV Outback Rescue Challenge

High-tech aerospace competition shows off local and international talent

The talents of high school and university students, as well as UAV enthusiasts were showcased at the recent UAV Outback Rescue Challenge at Kingaroy Airport in Queensland.

The prestigious aerospace competition, developed by the Australian Research Centre for Aerospace Automation (ARCAA), aims to give students and aerospace enthusiasts valuable experience in designing, building, testing and operating UAVs. It was designed to demonstrate the usefulness of UAV's to modern society.

This year's competition attracted entries from 11 Queensland high school teams and eight open teams

– including two international teams from the Netherlands and India.

Congratulations to the winning teams. Brisbane Grammar made history when their UAV flew autonomously to win the Robot Airborne Delivery Challenge.

Aviation High's 'Cloud 9' team won the Airborne Delivery Challenge, and also the 'closest drop' prize of an hour in a flight simulator donated by Alteon Training Australia.

University of Southern Queensland affiliated team 'Team Galah' and the 'Melbourne UAV' enthusiast team won the two top encouragement awards in the Search and Rescue Challenge.



Aviation High students at the UAV Outback Challenge (Photo: Heidi Snowdon)