



News from the Boeing world



August 2009

Boeing Australia & South Pacific



Boeing delivered Emirates' 78th 777 late last month. The Dubai-based carrier is now the world's largest operator of the 777. It is also the only airline to operate every model type, with 45 777-300ERs, nine 777-200s, 12 777-300s, 10 777-200LRs (Longer Range) and two 777 Freighters in its fleet. Emirates also has an additional 28 Boeing 777s on order.

NATO held a ceremony to commemorate the arrival of the first of three C-17 Globemaster III aircraft in Hungary. The C-17 will provide a new airlift capability for the 10 NATO and two Partnership for Peace nations who form the Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC) consortium. The first airlifter will soon start flying missions in support of the International Security Assistance Force operations in Afghanistan.

A report on the initial operational test and evaluation of Boeing's EA-18G Growler by the U.S. Department of Defense found the new electronic attack aircraft operationally effective, operationally suitable and ready for fleet introduction. The U.S. Navy's operational evaluation test team flew about 396 hours putting the Growler through its paces, between September 2008 and May 2009.

Boeing rolls out first P-8A Poseidon for U.S. Navy



Boeing and the U.S. Navy formally unveiled the service's newest maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon, during a ceremony at Boeing's Renton facility at the end of July.

A derivative of the Next-Generation 737-800, the P-8A is a long-range anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft capable of broad-area, maritime and littoral operations.

Australia has announced its intent to acquire manned Maritime Patrol and Response Aircraft by signing an MOU with the US Navy to cooperatively develop upgrades to the P-8A Poseidon and its support systems.

"The P-8A Poseidon will equip the U.S. Navy with the most advanced multi-mission maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft in the world," said Jim Albaugh, president and CEO of Boeing Integrated Defense Systems. "The Poseidon is also the latest in a decades-long Boeing tradition of working closely with the Navy and other customers to deliver a wide range of platforms that meet their most critical mission requirements, including commercial-derivative military planes, fighters, rotorcraft, and attack, electronic warfare and unmanned aircraft."

As the replacement for the Navy's P-3C Orion aircraft, the P-8A will provide greater payload capacity, significant growth potential, unprecedented flexibility and interoperability, and advanced mission systems, software and communications.

The integrated Navy/Boeing team will begin formal flight testing of the P-8A later this year. The Navy plans to purchase 117 P-8As, and initial operational capability is planned for 2013.

Qantas celebrates 50 years of operating Boeing jets

Flight from Sydney to San Francisco commemorates the historical event

Qantas Airways marked the 50th anniversary of its first jetliner service with a special ceremony for the departure of QF73 from Sydney to San Francisco on July 29. Qantas first flew the route with a Boeing 707-138 on July 29, 1959. QF73's non-stop 747-400 made the trip in 13 hours 20 minutes, faster and more comfortable than the 707-138 -- a model built specially for Qantas, and a sister ship to the 707 flown by actor John Travolta.

Qantas was the first non-U.S. 707 customer. The 707 that made the historic flight was the third delivered to Qantas. The first is stored in the Qantas Founders' Museum in Longreach, Queensland.

The introduction of the Boeing 707 revolutionised commercial aviation, slashing travel times by almost half and introducing new levels of passenger comfort.

Qantas CEO Alan Joyce, accompanied by one of the original Qantas 707 pilots, Val St Leon, said: "Introduction of the first jets on the Pacific was a game changer, like the switch from black-and-white TV to colour or the move from analog to digital signals. We're proud of our innovation record and think the 787 will be a similar game changer."

Rick Westmoreland, Boeing Commercial Airplanes vice president for Australia Sales, noted that Qantas had operated all Boeing commercial airplane types apart from the 757 and 777.

"This has been a truly long-haul relationship with one of the world's finest airlines," Westmoreland said. "Qantas has flown Boeing airplanes for 50 of its 88 years."



A U.S. Army CH-47F Chinook

Canada announces order for 15 CH-47F Chinooks

Boeing received a US\$1.15 billion contract from the Canadian government for 15 new CH-47F Chinook heavy-lift helicopters.

Designated the CH-147 in Canada, the Chinooks have been contracted to meet Canada's Medium-to-Heavy Lift Helicopter program requirements. Deliveries are expected to occur between 2013 and 2014.

"Boeing is extremely pleased that Canada has selected the CH-147 Chinook, the world's leading tandem-rotor helicopter, to modernise its defence forces' airlift fleet," said Jack Dougherty, Boeing vice president of H-47 Programs.

The Honourable Peter MacKay, Canada's Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway said, "This helicopter will give Canada's military a robust capability with the ability to operate in remote and isolated areas, and increase their capacity to respond to disasters both at home and abroad."

The CH-147, which will be modified to meet Canada's operational environment, will be powered by two 4,733-horsepower Honeywell engines and feature extended-range capabilities. It will be able to carry more than 9,525kg of cargo.



Boeing Field Service Manager Gary Small (second from left) and former Qantas 707 Pilot Val St Leon (centre) with Qantas staff in period flight attendant uniforms



First 747-8 Freighter takes shape

Boeing has taken a major step toward completing the assembly of the first 747-8 Freighter as the forward and aft fuselage sections were joined with the wing and centre section.

"It is exciting to see this airplane taking shape," said Mo Yahyavi, vice president and general manager of the 747 Program. "The 747-8 is the largest commercial jet airplane we have assembled."

The 747-8 Freighter is 76.3 m long, which is 5.6 m longer than the 747-400 Freighter. The stretch provides customers with 16 per cent more revenue cargo volume compared to its predecessor. That translates to four additional main-deck pallets and three additional lower-hold pallets.

The 747-8 Freighter is the new high-capacity 747 that will give cargo operators the lowest operating costs and best economics of any freighter airplane while providing enhanced environmental performance.

Boeing has won 78 orders from leading cargo operators for the new 747-8 Freighter. Cargolux, Nippon Cargo Airlines, AirBridgeCargo Airlines, Atlas Air, Cathay Pacific, Dubai Aerospace Enterprise, Emirates SkyCargo, Guggenheim and Korean Air are all customers.

Lufthansa has ordered 20 of the 747-8 Intercontinental passenger variant.

Alteon changing name to Boeing Training & Flight Services

Boeing is changing the name of its training organisation Alteon, which will be renamed Boeing Training & Flight Services. The new name will be phased in across the organisation's global network, including the Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne centres, in the months ahead.

The new name reflects the organisation's expanded capabilities for providing flight, maintenance, cabin safety and flight operations training. With the addition of flight services, the organisation's expertise now includes customised flight and dispatch documentation, airplane performance data, operational consulting and safety analysis.

"Our customers trust Boeing to provide unsurpassed industry leadership in training and flight operations," said Sherry Carbary, vice president of the new organisation.

"Boeing Training & Flight Services reflects the commitment of Boeing to provide our customers the resources and technical expertise they need to enable safe and efficient operations."

Boeing Training & Flight Services provides innovative training products and services to more than 400 customers around the world. Its training and services programs are accepted by more than 100 regulatory agencies worldwide. The customer support team provides 24-hour support to more than 12,000 in-service aircraft. Boeing Training & Flight Services has a global network of more than 20 locations around the world supporting more than 100 full-flight simulators, including the new world-class 787 training suites.

In Australia, Alteon employs about 60 people and is the first truly commercial aviation training operation in the South Pacific, offering flight and technical training to airlines from across the region and occasionally across the globe.



Brisbane simulators operated by Alteon Training



BDA wins 737 battery repair approval

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration broadened Boeing Defence Australia's repair station certificate to include a battery accessory rating on July 14.

The rating authorises BDA to repair and overhaul 737 aircraft batteries at both Amberley and Eagle Farm sites near Brisbane, Australia.

"It significantly enhances our existing 737 commercial and commercial-derivative aircraft maintenance and repair capability," said Joe Urli, BDA national certification manager.

BDA received its FAA Part 145 Repair Station certificate in 2008. BDA is also authorised to perform deeper maintenance and airframe/engine repairs on 737 commercial aircraft and the model's military derivatives.

Boeing to demonstrate unmanned cargo aircraft for U.S. Marine Corps

Boeing received a \$US500,000 contract from the U.S. Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory to demonstrate the company's A160T (YMQ-18A) Hummingbird for the Marines' Immediate Cargo Unmanned Aerial System Demonstration Program.

In flights that will take place by February, Boeing will demonstrate that the A160T can deliver at least 1134kg of cargo from one simulated forward-operating base to another in fewer than six hours per day for three consecutive days. The Marines are studying the use of unmanned aerial vehicles instead of trucks and personnel to deliver supplies.

The A160T has a 1134kg payload capacity. It features a unique optimum-speed-rotor technology that significantly improves overall

performance efficiency by adjusting the rotor's speed at different altitudes, gross weights and cruise speeds.

The autonomous unmanned aircraft, measuring 10.7m long with a 10.9m rotor diameter, has hovered at 20,000 feet and cruised at more than 140 knots. The A160T established a world endurance record in its class in 2008 with an 18.7-hour unrefueled flight.

The A160 flew for the first time in January 2002 at a former U.S. Air Force base in California, where flight-testing of the Hummingbird continues. It can reach higher altitudes, hover for longer periods of time, go greater distances and operate much more quietly than current helicopters.

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