

Feature Story

Boeing celebrates 10th anniversary of Super Hornets in Australia

March 26, 2020

Boeing is today honouring the 10th anniversary of the arrival of the first Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) F/A-18F Super Hornets in-country on 26 March 2010.

In the past decade, Boeing has partnered with the RAAF to help develop Australia's Super Hornet fleet into one of the most advanced and formidable multi-role fighters in the world today.

Through a combination of ongoing sustainment and upgrades, Boeing has delivered enhanced capability to the combat-proven, cutting-edge, next-generation Super Hornet, to maintain regional air superiority now and well into the future.

The RAAF has 24 F/A-18F Super Hornets and 11 EA-18G Growlers operated out of RAAF Base Amberley, which are operated and sustained under the Boeing-led Air Combat Electronic Attack (ACEA) Sustainment Program (ACEASP).

ACEA sustainment sees Boeing leverage both local industry expertise and Original Equipment Manufacturer capabilities from The Boeing Company to provide logistics, maintenance, engineering, and operational and capability upgrade management services for the RAAF Super Hornets and Growlers.

ACEASP Program Manager Chris Gray said Boeing's best-for-capability solutions ensured the Super Hornets' operational and fleet life success.

"The 10th anniversary of the arrival of the first tranche of five F/A-18F Super Hornets in-country is a momentous milestone for us," Gray said. "Ten years of successful operations have been founded on the enduring partnership between Boeing and the RAAF. Boeing's role as platform steward gives us the opportunity to make a vital difference to Australia's airpower capability.

"We are proud to be maintaining and upgrading the Super Hornet – notching up 10 years as a trusted partner of the RAAF in stewarding the Super Hornet as Australia's premier frontline air combat capability.

"We are the country's most experienced sustainment provider and we're continuing to build Australia's sovereign defence capability to deliver the best outcomes for defence."

RAAF Air Vice-Marshal Catherine Roberts added: "Defence's relationship with Boeing has delivered us a great air combat capability with the Super Hornet, which we have used decisively on exercises and operations. We are very pleased to celebrate this 10th Anniversary milestone."