

# Additional Australian Suppliers Join Boeing's MQ-28 Industry Team

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- Boeing's uncrewed aircraft makes public debut at Avalon 2023.
- 55 Australia suppliers now support MQ-28 aircraft production.
- Boeing signs Memorandum of Understanding with capability partner, BAE Systems Australia.

Boeing's [NYSE:BA] MQ-28A Ghost Bat Australian supplier base has increased by 60 percent – to 55 suppliers – just four years after initial concept unveiling.

Making its public debut at Avalon 2023, the MQ-28 is the first Australian-designed, developed and manufactured military combat aircraft in half-a-century.

"The support of agile local suppliers has been vital to the rapid manufacture of this revolutionary uncrewed aircraft and its payloads, which will support a range of missions," said Glen Ferguson, director MQ-28 Global Program, Boeing Australia.

"The Boeing MQ-28 program proves Australian industry can create a seamless link between airpower capability needs, local innovation and job opportunities."

Aircraft development is progressing, with a robust flight test schedule underway and validation of MQ-28's operational capabilities in an all-digital environment to refine mission sets is ongoing.

"Programs like Boeing's MQ-28A Ghost Bat help to sustain and grow the important relationship Defence has with Australian industry," said Air Vice-Marshal Wendy Blyth, Head of Air Force Capability, Royal Australian Air Force.

Lovitt Technologies Australia and Marand Precision Engineering are two suppliers applying innovative solutions to develop the fighter-like aircraft with Boeing.

"Providing tooling experience and machined parts for this game-changing air vehicle has been an excellent fit for our capabilities and the technical expertise of our workforce," said Rohan Stocker, Marand CEO and long-term Boeing supplier.

Program capability partner, BAE Systems Australia has also signed an extension of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as a shared commitment to the development of a sustainable, sovereign MQ-28 program.

"The MOU supports the development and implementation of cutting-edge design and technologies, along with the resources and skills to support autonomy development as the program evolves," said Ben Hudson, chief executive officer BAE Systems Australia.



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