



# Backgrounder

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Integrated Defense Systems  
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## **Boeing C-40B Special Air Mission Aircraft**

Boeing is on contract to build four 737-700 special air mission aircraft, designated the C-40B, for the U.S. Air Force. The C-40B, based on the Boeing Business Jet, will provide airlift with an office-in-the-sky environment for U.S. Combatant Commanders and other senior government officials.

The C-40B will be equipped with the Connexion by Boeing(SM) system, providing secure in-flight broadband connectivity – data/video transmit and receive capability – to enhance communications, productivity and security.

The C-40B will set new standards in performance, low-cost operations and reliability for the Air Force's airlift support mission. With its superior range and performance, 777-type flight deck, updated avionics and quiet, clean, fuel-efficient engines, the 737-700 aircraft will multiply the Air Force's capability for rapid response in support of global missions.

## **First Flight To Delivery**

The initial C-40B made its first flight, freshly painted in Air Force colors, June 28, 2002, from the company's Long Beach, Calif., facility. The aircraft then entered its scheduled flight-test program. Following flight test, the C-40B flew to the Boeing facility in Wichita, Kan., where it received final modifications prior to delivery to the Air Force. The first C-40B was delivered to the Air Force in December 2002. The second C-40B was delivered in January 2003; the third in December 2004. The fourth aircraft will be delivered in 2005. The Air Force will operate and maintain the aircraft.

## **The 737 -- The World's Most Successful Commercial Airliner**

The Boeing 737-700 builds on the strengths that have made the 737 the world's most successful commercial airliner, while incorporating improvements designed for the 21st century. This next-generation aircraft provides higher cruise speed – 0.78 to 0.82 Mach, more range – 3,000 nautical miles, and new engines with improvements in noise,

fuel burn and thrust. Additionally, a new flight deck common-display system increases commonality by incorporating programmable liquid-crystal displays.

The C-40B fleet will be powered by CFM56-7 engines produced by CFM International, a joint venture of General Electric of the United States and SNECMA of France. The engines will provide the ability to meet noise restrictions well below Stage 3 levels. Certified at 24,000 pounds of thrust, the new engines offer lower fuel burn and lower engine maintenance costs.

The Air Force's C-40B fleet will take full advantage of the 737 next-generation aircraft's commercial introduction and lifetime support services, allowing high reliability at a lower maintenance cost. The 737 has aviation's most comprehensive field service and spares distribution network.

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