BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

Boeing in Israel

The relationship between Boeing and Israel goes back more than 75 years — to the founding of the State of Israel. Since then, Boeing has worked closely with Israeli commercial and military customers and suppliers and has developed many lasting partnerships.

Israel has a large and modern air force and a successful commercial aviation sector. The Israeli aerospace industry in the public and private sectors provides a high level of innovation and expertise in the design and manufacture of a wide variety of defense, space and communications products. Its position as a world aerospace leader makes Israel an important market and partner to Boeing.

OUR COMMITMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Boeing is proud to support important causes such as education, veterans and community needs in Israel through work with community partners. Boeing employees also volunteer in local communities.

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Boeing has maintained offices in Israel since 1969. Today, it has a corporate office in Tel Aviv that addresses all needs and requirements of Boeing customers and suppliers in Israel.

David Ivry served as the President of Boeing Israel from 2003 till January 2022. His successor is Major-General (Res.) Ido Nehushtan, who served as the Israeli Chief of the Air Force and will lead now the Boeing business in Israel.

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**Boeing Commercial Aviation**

The Boeing Company has been a partner of Israeli commercial aviation in general and Israel’s flag airline El Al in particular since the day it was founded.

From its historic beginning, El Al grew into a prestigious world carrier, ranked as one of the world's best. The airline was formally established in 1948 and began operations with routes from Tel Aviv to Rome and Paris, operating a handful of former military and surplus aircraft, including Curtiss C-46s and Douglas DC-3s and DC-4s.

With the coming of the jet age, El Al favored the new Boeing commercial jets and eventually changed over to an all-Boeing fleet. The first Boeing 707 was delivered to El Al in 1961, and since then El Al has demonstrated the world-leading capabilities of Boeing airplanes. In 1961, El Al set a world record for the longest nonstop commercial flight with a Boeing 707. The trip from New York to Tel Aviv covered 5,005 nautical miles (9,269 kilometers) in 9 hours, 33 minutes.

In 1984, El Al took delivery of a 767-200ER (Extended Range), which, on its initial flight to Israel, became the first twin-jet airplane to cross the North Atlantic in scheduled commercial passenger service. In May 1991, an El Al 747 airlifted a record-breaking 1,087 passengers — Ethiopian Jews flying from Addis Ababa to Israel as part of Operation Solomon.

El Al was privatized in 2003. Over the next 10 years, El Al built its Boeing fleet with orders for 747s, 767s and 777s for long-haul routes. In 2011 and 2012, El Al ordered eight 737-900ER models for regional service, as well as up to 16 787 Dreamliner jets in 2015.

**Boeing Defense Systems**

On the defense front, Boeing’s relationship with the Israeli Defense Forces dates back to the foundation of the State of Israel in 1948 when the Israeli Air Force (IAF) began flying the B-17 Flying Fortress.

The Douglas DC-3 made history between 1949 and 1951 with the airlifts of 120,000 Jews from Iraq and 45,000 from Yemen and served in the IAF until 2002. The Consolidated PBY Catalina served for several years along with the B-17 in the IAF’s 69th Squadron. This squadron also operated the F-4E Phantom and today operates the F-15I Thunder aircraft.

The F-51 Mustang fighter aircraft was one of the first to serve in the IAF and took part in the 1956 Sinai Campaign. Stearman PT-17 aircraft and Harvard AT-6 trainers served in the IAF Flying School until the late 1960s.

The IAF operated the legendary Boeing 707 for almost 40 years in various roles, including intelligence gathering, passenger transport, freight transport and aerial refueling. In 2021 the IAF decided to replace the 707 with four KC-46. Other aircraft from Boeing and its legacy companies that have served in the IAF include the Douglas A-4 Skyhawk, McDonnell F-4 Phantom, F-15 Eagle and F-15 dual-role Strike Eagle, C-47 and AH-64 Apache attack helicopters.

Currently, the IAF employs all versions of the F-15 Eagle, including the advanced F-15I Ra’am (Thunder) — a derivative of the U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagle. The IAF has operated Boeing AH-64A Apaches since the early 1990s. In 2005, the IAF received its first AH-64D Apache attack helicopter.

**Boeing Industrial Cooperation**

Boeing has a long history of working in partnership with Israel’s technical and industrial sectors and other stakeholders and continues to seek such relationships for common benefit. Today, Israeli industry supplies parts for many Boeing commercial and military products, including the F-15; AH-64D Apache Longbow; and 737, 777 and 787 commercial airplanes.

Boeing and Israel entered a reciprocal procurement partnership in October 2018, with Boeing agreeing to spend billions of dollars in Israel if it wins major defense contracts. Israel is expected to purchase $10 billion worth of military products from Boeing in the next decade, and the new agreement means Boeing will now invest $3.5 billion in new business in Israel.