BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

Boeing Saudi Arabia

75 Years of Partnership

Boeing enjoys a strong and long-standing relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The partnership began Feb. 14, 1945, when U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt presented a twin-engine DC-3 Dakota to King Abdulaziz Al Saud. This event marked both the beginning of the Boeing relationship with Saudi Arabia and the birth of commercial air travel in the kingdom. Since then, Boeing has developed and expanded relationships with the Saudi commercial, defense and services sectors.

OUR COMMITMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

240+ Boeing commercial airplanes delivered

400+ defense aircraft in Saudi Arabian Armed Forces

2,200+ employees at various Boeing businesses, subsidiaries and joint ventures

INVESTMENTS

Boeing investments in Saudi have helped grow the local aerospace sector, creating jobs and driving innovation for mutual benefit.

5 R&D projects with KAUST, KACST, Alfaisal, PNU and KAU

7 local partnerships with SAMI, AAI, SAEI, SPSC, NIDLP, KAUST and KACST

$100M+ investments in local capabilities

COMMUNITY GIVING

Boeing proudly supports education, health, human services, women’s empowerment and other important causes through community partnerships.

$12M+ Boeing Global Engagement spend since 2005

4 major leadership development initiatives

4 in-kingdom university partnerships

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BOEING SAUDI ARABIA

Boeing Commercial Airplanes

After World War II, Saudi Arabia began using the DC-3 to carry passengers and cargo between the cities of Jeddah, Riyadh and Dhahran. The service proved so successful that King Abdulaziz ordered the purchase of two more DC-3s, launching the kingdom’s aviation sector. The DC-3 was the foundation of Saudi Arabian Airlines.

In 1962, Saudi Arabian Airlines introduced 720Bs into service — becoming the first airline in the Middle East to operate commercial jet airplanes. Over the years, Saudia has taken delivery of most Boeing airplane models, including the 707, 737, 747, 777, 787, MD-11F, DC-3, DC-4, DC-9 and MD-90.

The Saudia VIP market represents about 70% of Boeing Business Jet sales to the Arabian Gulf region. Different Boeing aircraft types in VIP configuration — including 727, 737, 747, 757, 767, 777 and 787 — have been ordered or currently operate in the kingdom.

Boeing Defense, Space & Security

The company’s relationship with the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) began in 1978 with the purchase of the kingdom’s initial F-15C/D fleet, which became the backbone of its air defense. After Operation Desert Storm, the RSAF increased its force with an additional purchase of F-15C/Ds, followed by F-15S Strike Eagles, to enhance its capabilities with one of the most advanced multi role platforms in the world.

In December 2011, Saudi Arabia and the United States signed a Foreign Military Sales agreement that included F-15A fighters, AH-64E Apache attack helicopters, AH-6 light attack/armed reconnaissance helicopters, Harpoon and Standoff Land Attack Missile Expanded Response (SLAM ER) missiles, Joint Direct Attack Munitions, and Small Diameter Bombs and launchers, along with the associated support and training — the largest such agreement in U.S. history.

Other Boeing defense products currently operated in the kingdom include E-3A AWACS aircraft and KC-3A cargo/tanker planes. In August 2017, the Ministry of the National Guard took possession of its first AH-6 Little Birds, becoming the first customer to operate the light attack and reconnaissance helicopters. Also in August, Boeing welcomed Saudi Arabia as its 20th global Chinook operator, following a contract award from the U.S. Army to build eight of the heavy-lift helicopters for the kingdom. Saudi Arabia has requested a total of 48 CH-47F Chinooks.

Several ScanEagle systems are in operation with the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces and government entities involved in public security.

Boeing Global Services

Boeing continues to expand its services presence in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and is committed to growing indigenous capabilities. Currently, more than 2,300 employees and partners provide services support to commercial and government customers throughout the region.

Global Services provides sustainment solutions to a number of government platforms, including AH-6, AH-64, F-15, and the 707-based AWACS and Tanker. The business also provides supply chain; digital aviation; engineering, modifications and maintenance; and training solutions to several airline customers.

Partnerships

In 2001, the King Faisal Foundation, together with a team of entrepreneurs, Saudi businesses and multinational corporations, embarked on an ambitious program to establish the first private university in the kingdom. Boeing joined this effort as a co-founding member of Alfaisal University, which began giving lectures in 2002. In 2009, Boeing became a member of the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) industrial collaboration program, which aims to facilitate local and international industrial collaboration.

In 2014, Boeing Research & Technology opened an office at KAUST to enable increased interaction with professors and resident companies interested in joint collaboration and research and development. Also, Boeing and King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology launched the Decision Support Center in Riyadh. The center serves as a key tool for collaboration and experimentation between customers and partners in the kingdom, giving users the ability to make more informed modernization and interoperability decisions for aerospace and defense products.

In 2015, Boeing signed an agreement with Saudi Aerospace Engineering Industries and Alsalam Aerospace Industries to create the Saudi Rotorcraft Support Company (SRSC) in Saudi Arabia. SRSC focuses on expanding the Saudi workforce through creation of self-sustaining jobs, technical and aerospace skills development for local workers, and further involvement of the Saudi aerospace supply base.

In 2018, in line with Saudi Arabia’s Vision 2030 objective to localize 50% of total military spending by 2030, Saudi Arabian Military Industries and Boeing signed a Memorandum of Agreement to develop a joint venture aiming to localize more than 50% of the maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) services for fixed- and rotary-wing military aircraft in Saudi Arabia. In 2019, Boeing, the National Industrial Development and Logistics Program of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabian Industrial Investments Company, and the Saudi Arabian Mining Company signed a Memorandum of Understanding to further the development of the aerospace industry in Saudi Arabia. The partnership will strengthen the country’s infrastructure, including supporting the production of aluminum products to the material specifications of Boeing and the broader industry.

A HISTORY OF PARTNERSHIP

1945
U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt presents a DC-3 Dakota airplane to King Abdulaziz Al Saud

1985
Boeing and local partners begin a formal program to meet offset obligations, through four industrial projects to benefit the kingdom

2001
Boeing becomes a co-founder and member of the Alfaisal University of Riyadh board of trustees

2014
Boeing Research & Technology opens an office at KAUST. Also, Boeing and King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology launch the Decision Support Center in Riyadh

2015
Boeing Saudi Arabia and Saudi partners reach an agreement to establish the SRSC

2017
Defense and commercial agreements, worthover $50 billion, are signed during the U.S. president’s visit, further strengthening the Boeing-Saudi Arabia partnership

2018
Boeing and Saudi Arabia Military Industries sign a Memorandum of Agreement to form a joint venture localizing more than 55% of MRO services for fixed- and rotary-wing military aircraft in Saudi Arabia

2019
Boeing and Saudi partners sign a Memorandum of Understanding to further the development of the aerospace industry in Saudi Arabia

Commercial

- Boeing airplane models delivered to Saudia: 707, 727, 737, 747, 777, 787, MD-11F, DC-3, DC-4, DC-9 and MD-90
- Boeing aircraft types in VIP configuration ordered or currently operating in Saudi Arabia: 727, 737, 747, 757, 767, 777
- Aramco Aviation owned and operated fleet: 737-700 (previously 737-300)

Defense

- Royal Saudi Land Force aircraft: AH-64D, AH-64E, ScanEagle
- Saudi National Guard aircraft: AH-64E, AH-6 Weapons: SDB I, SLAM ER Harpoon, JDAM
- Ministry of Interior (MoI) ScanEagle

Services

- Defense and commercial sustainment solutions: supply chain, digital aviation, engineering, modifications, maintenance and training

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