Boeing in the United Kingdom

The Boeing relationship with the United Kingdom and British industry dates back through nearly 80 years of partnership and technical achievement, and continues to grow. Boeing now employs twice as many people and spends three times as much with its suppliers than the company did in 2011. The relationship has also developed to involve more than 250 U.K. companies as partners and suppliers, with Boeing sustaining an estimated 16,500 high-value, long-term U.K. jobs in the tier-one supply chain across the country. The company's footprint in the U.K. continues to grow through programs such as the 787 Dreamliner, Chinook Through Life Customer Support (TLCS), The Boeing Portal and the Support Chain Information Services (SCIS) delivery partnership, formerly LogNEC.

In 2008, in anticipation of continued growth, Boeing established a legal U.K. identity — Boeing Defence U.K. Ltd. (BDUK) — to enable the company to grow coherently, respond effectively to the U.K.'s Defence Industrial strategy and demonstrate readiness to create and develop intellectual property within the U.K. In 2009, BDUK announced the establishment of U.K. Rotorcraft Support, an organization focused on providing increased capability to the U.K. military rotorcraft fleet.

In 2017, Boeing began construction of a new high-tech facility in Sheffield — the company’s first Fabrication facility in Europe. The Boeing Sheffield facility, located alongside the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre with Boeing, will supply components for trailing-edge actuator systems used on 777, Next-Generation 737 and 737 MAX airplanes. The site will begin operations in 2018.

Boeing’s Presence, Suppliers and Partners in the United Kingdom

Today, Boeing employs more than 2,200 people at sites across the U.K., with the company hiring, on average, one new employee per day for the past two years. Further growth planned is planned in 2017 and beyond. The company has more than 250 U.K. suppliers and strategic partnerships with six universities across the country: Bristol, Cambridge, Cranfield, Sheffield, Southampton and Strathclyde.

In 2016, Boeing spent £2.1 billion ($2.9 billion) with more than 250 U.K. suppliers, supporting an estimate 16,500 jobs in the tier one supply chain. In support of the U.K. government’s prosperity agenda, Boeing announced a number of measures in July 2016, including a plan to double its employment in the U.K. and support U.K. supply chain enhancements. Boeing business is anticipated to continue to grow with U.K. suppliers, particularly as 787 production continues to ramp up and the company grows its defense footprint through BDUK, which currently employs more than 1,400 people in the U.K. A key strategy for Boeing is to work as one company across all its business units and subsidiaries, including with the supply chain and procurement approaches.

Boeing Commercial Airplanes has a large installed base of passenger and freighter airplanes. Boeing has forged strong and enduring partnerships with U.K. companies
such as BAE Systems, Rolls-Royce, GE Aviation Services and GKN Aerospace, and the business has been growing steadily in recent years.

Elsewhere, Boeing is investing in U.K. technology and expertise through research and development programs with universities such as Cambridge, Cranfield and, in particular, the University of Sheffield, where the company founded and continues to support the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre. In late 2008, Boeing collaborated with other industry companies to open the Integrated Vehicle Health Management (IVHM) Centre at Cranfield University. Boeing is also a member of the National Centre for Universities and Business, an organization that develops, promotes and supports collaboration between industry and academia across the U.K.

Boeing closely partners with the U.K. Trade and Investment Defence and Security Organisation on delivering high-value, enduring industrial engagement programs in conjunction with the U.K. Ministry of Defence and industry. This decade alone, Boeing has delivered more than £2.6 billion ($4 billion) in Industrial Participation programs, all of which delivered on or ahead of schedule. In July 2012, Boeing became the first company to sign up to the Ministry of Defence’s new Defence and Security Industrial Engagement Policy, a policy encouraging overseas-based companies to make a firm commitment to continue business activities in the U.K. for the long term.

**Business Activities in the United Kingdom and Ireland**

*Boeing Defence U.K.*

The U.K. is a strategic market for Boeing Defense, Space & Security, the parent company of British subsidiary BDUK. Boeing is delivering leading-edge technology, products, services and capabilities to bring best value to the Ministry of Defence, the emergency services and security services.

Boeing platforms in service with British armed forces include the E3-D AWACS Sentry, Apache attack helicopter, Chinook heavy-lift helicopter, C-17 military transport aircraft, Insitu ScanEagle reconnaissance unmanned aerial vehicle and the Harpoon missile.

In 2007, Boeing established The Portal, a state-of-the-art center enabling customers to explore and understand implications of proposed network-enabled systems in a real-time, dynamic environment using the latest in modeling, simulation, analysis and experimentation. Now known as The Boeing Portal, the facility moved into expanded, bespoke premises in December 2011.

The success of the U.K. Rotorcraft Support team continues with the completion of the Chinook Mk3 Reversion program, the start-up and initial flights of the Mk4 Julius program in January 2011, and a new order for 14 additional Mk6 Chinooks placed in summer 2011, with deliveries close to completion. The U.K. Ministry of Defence celebrated the release to service of the latest Mk6 Chinook in June 2014, along with the announcement of an associated engine-maintenance program. BDUK was recently awarded another five-year extension to support the entire Chinook fleet out to 2021.

In 2013, the Royal Navy contracted with BDUK and Boeing subsidiary Insitu for the supply of ScanEagle unmanned aerial systems as a maritime intelligence, surveillance
and reconnaissance (ISR) asset now in service on three Royal Navy ships. BDUK set up a focused training business in 2014 to enhance the delivery of integrated, platform-based military capability to support customers’ operational requirements. In early 2016, BDUK extended its customer base to include emergency services when the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in Staffordshire awarded a contract to Boeing to become its strategic IT partner. In the summer of 2016, the U.K. ordered nine Boeing P-8A aircraft and 50 AH-64E Apache helicopters.

In the summer of 2016, Defence Secretary Michael Fallon presented BDUK with a gold award in the 2016 Employer Recognition Scheme, which recognizes employers who are supporting Armed Forces personnel, reservists and their families.

BDUK maintains important local partnerships and alliances with companies such as Leonardo Helicopters (formerly AgustaWestland), BAE Systems, QinetiQ and Thales U.K. The SCIS delivery partner program, formerly known as LogNEC, has relationships with Hewlett-Packard, IBM, BearingPoint, Steria, EMC and Ark Continuity.

BDUK offers a portfolio of services and products aimed at protecting regional security interests and is committed to executing and delivering on promises made to customers.

**Boeing Commercial Airplanes**

Commercial Airplanes has a long history of success with U.K. airlines, with some 600 airplanes delivered over the past 40 years. British Airways has about 130 Boeing airplanes in its fleet, including 747, 767, 777 and 787 models. The Boeing 737 remains popular with low-cost carriers. Ryanair, an airline with a U.K. stock market listing and a significant presence in the market, operates Europe’s largest fleet of 737-800s, and the airline was also the launch customer for the 737 MAX 200, placing an order for 100 in November 2014. Other U.K. operators, such as Thomson Airways (part of TUI Group) and Monarch Airlines, have also ordered a combined total of more than 100 737 MAX 8 airplanes.

The 787 is making a major contribution to delivering sustainable aviation growth in the U.K. and has entered into service with Thomson Airways, British Airways and Virgin Atlantic Airways. Several major U.K. aerospace companies are playing a significant part in the 787 program, including Rolls-Royce, GE Aviation Services, Messier-Bugatti-Dowty, Ultra Electronics, GKN, Claverham and Ipeco. By value, on a 787 with Rolls-Royce engines, U.K. companies make 25 percent of the Dreamliner.

**Boeing Global Services**

Boeing Global Services is the company’s new business unit, established on July 1, 2017. Global Services integrates the services capabilities of Boeing’s government, space and commercial sectors into a single, customer-focused business. The business unit is focused on providing innovative service solutions within four capability focus areas: Supply Chain, Engineering, Modifications and Maintenance, Digital Aviation and Analytics, and Training and Professional Services.

Boeing Flight Services, part of Global Services, runs a flight and technical training center in Crawley, located south of Gatwick Airport, for flight crew and maintenance
personnel. The centre opened in September 2004 and trains pilots and technicians from airlines across Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The current 4,900 square metre (5,860-square-yard) facility houses classrooms, fixed training devices, eight full-flight simulators and an exclusive 787 training suite. An expansion is currently underway, which will make the facility the largest such Boeing site outside the United States.

To provide commercial aviation services to customers in Europe, Boeing Commercial Aviation Services (Europe) Ltd. (BCASEL) was established with premises in Frimley, Surrey, formally opening in January 2016. In late 2016, Boeing announced plans for a maintenance hangar for commercial aviation maintenance customers at London Gatwick Airport.

Subsidiaries

Boeing has a number of subsidiaries in the United Kingdom: Jeppesen U.K., Continental DataGraphics, Aviall U.K., Miro Technologies and Aviation Training International Ltd., which is a joint venture with Leonardo Helicopters (formerly AgustaWestland) that provides training for British Army Apache air crew, ground crew and maintenance personnel. Recent acquisitions with a presence in the United Kingdom include AerData, ETS Aviation and 2d3 Sensing.

Corporate Citizenship

Boeing supports U.K. education and environment projects to positively impact the communities where the company operates, with a focus on developing 21st century skills, improving youth participation in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), workforce development and opening up access to development opportunities to all members of society. Boeing also contributes hundreds of volunteer hours each year to community activities such as Earth Day and the company’s Global Month of Service.

Schools Build-a-Plane Challenge

The Boeing and Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) Schools Build-a-Plane Challenge aims to inspire young people toward study in STEM. It also encourages young people’s awareness of the aerospace sector, demonstrates its economic importance and offers them a wide array of related career paths. The project provides teams of young people in U.K. secondary schools with the opportunity to build a real light aircraft from a kit. This gives them hands-on experience of the aircraft build process, helping them to understand the scientific and engineering principles behind flight and develop commercial skills such as project management, problem-solving, teamwork and communication, with the ultimate aim of taking a flight in the aircraft once it is complete. Boeing experts and regional branch members of the RAeS are on hand to act in a mentoring capacity during the build process, and a variety of visits have been conducted in support of the broader educational benefits associated with the project.

The program was launched as a national competition in early 2009. Currently, six schools take part, each one building an aircraft. Yateley School celebrated the first flight of the project in April 2013. Marling School, the second school to be awarded a plane kit, was the first school to have students fly in the plane they built, in March 2014. Both
Yateley and Marling schools’ aircraft flew at the 2014 Farnborough International Airshow, an historic first for kit-built aircraft at an international air show. Since then, the third aircraft, built by students from Ercall Wood Technology College in Shropshire, flew in October 2015 and displayed at Farnborough in 2016. The program is in its final year and comes to a close in fall 2017.

*The Prince’s Trust*

The Prince’s Trust Achieve clubs are a personal development program aimed at young people aged 13 to 19 at risk of underachievement or exclusion from school. The aim is to keep young people in school and to re-engage them in education through an informal, youth-led and supportive setting. Boeing supports 25 Achieve clubs across the United Kingdom and engages with many of them on STEM subjects in particular. Boeing also supports the Get Started with Product Design annual week-long training course at the AMRC for young people to gain the right technical and social skills to get into education, apprenticeships, training or work.

*The Air League*

Boeing and the Air League launched their partnership in May 2012, announcing a flying scholarship scheme in the presence of HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, as he celebrated 60 years as the Air League’s patron. The Air League offers Boeing-supported scholarships to secondary school pupils from disadvantaged areas to learn how to pilot a glider solo in two weeks. Furthermore, Boeing and the Air League work with the British charity Aerobility to provide flying lessons to wounded veterans and disabled people in specially modified aircraft with sliding canopies and electric and manual hoists that aid in accommodating wheelchairs and power-chairs.

*Centennial Wings*

Boeing, the Royal Air Force and the Air League joined forces to launch Centennial Wings at the Farnborough International Airshow on the date of Boeing’s centenary, July 15, 2016, with a planned completion date in 2018 — the RAF’s own centenary.

Centennial Wings complements and enhances the existing RAF Air Training Corps cadets’ curriculum with hands-on practical application of classroom theory in order to help inspire young people in Britain to study STEM subjects and to take an interest in careers in aerospace.

Approximately 70 ATC cadets from the Northern Ireland ATC Wing will work to assemble a Sting S4 ultralight aircraft from kit, under the guidance of Squadron Leader Ian Campbell, Wing Commander Mike Miskimmin and volunteers from the Ulster Aviation Society; Boeing engineers will mentor the program. The cadets will plan and build the aircraft over a total of more than 400 hours and use the completed Sting S4 for flying training, once it has been certified to fly by the Light Aircraft Association.

*The Royal Academy of Engineering*

The Connecting STEM Teachers program with the Royal Academy of Engineering is a new corporate citizenship initiative for Boeing in the U.K. Established in 2011 and
currently active in 550 schools across the U.K., the program aims to create a national network of training, mentoring and resources for teachers across all STEM subjects, ensuring that they have the knowledge and confidence to engage a greater number and wider spectrum of school students with STEM.

Boeing U.K. joined the program in 2016. The partnership will enable the Academy to recruit four specialist STEM teachers over 2017 and 2018 to work in up to 40 schools to support STEM teachers in delivering an engaging and inspiring curriculum. Boeing U.K. will also support the development of high-quality STEM teaching and learning resources for use across the Connecting STEM Teachers network.

*Earth Restoration Service*

Boeing supports the Earth Restoration Service in planting native tree saplings at 100 schools all over the U.K. and overseas to create small-scale tree nurseries. The students are directly involved in planting and growing the trees. Once the saplings reach the correct maturity, students, teachers and parents plant the trees in the local community. This is an effective way for children to learn about ecology and for the schools to engage practically with their local communities. Earth Day in 2016 took place at nine Boeing U.K. sites, with employees helping children to plant trees and clear conservation areas on school sites.

*Boeing U.K. Headquarters*

Sir Michael Arthur joined as president of Boeing U.K. and Ireland in October 2014. He was appointed president of Boeing Europe and managing director of Boeing U.K. and Ireland in March 2016. The vice president and managing director of Boeing Defence U.K. is David Pitchforth. He was named to the role of president of Boeing Defense, Space & Security global operations in November 2016. Both are based in the Boeing offices in central London.

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