

Boeing to deliver first Super Hornet to Australia

By Philip Carder

Boeing is scheduled to deliver the first of 24 F/A-18F Super Hornets to the Royal Australian Air Force this month—three months early—making Australia the first nation other than the United States to operate the Super Hornet.

“It’s been a remarkable journey getting the first aircraft from the early planning stages to delivery to our RAAF partners,” said Carolyn Nichols, Boeing’s F/A-18F Super Hornet program manager for Australia. “We knew what the goal was and we went after it.” Nichols credited the early delivery to strong teamwork between Boeing, the U.S. Navy, Australia’s Defence Materiel Organisation, the Royal Australian Air Force and the Hornet Industry Team.

Bob Gower, F/A-18 and EA-18 programs vice president, believes the RAAF will appreciate the Super Hornet’s advanced technologies—including sensors such as the APG-79 Active Electronically Scanned Array radar, which provides aircrews with a completely integrated image of the air, ground and maritime environments. Australia already flies a fleet of 71 upgraded Hornet F/A-18A/B models.

Production of the remaining 23 RAAF Super Hornets, built in St. Louis, will continue through 2011. The aircraft performs a wide spectrum of missions including air superiority, day/night strike with precision-guided weapons, fighter escort, close air support, suppression of enemy air defenses, maritime strike, reconnaissance, tanker and forward air control. ■

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PHOTOS: (TOP) Larry Echele, sheet metal assembler and riveter (right) discusses the installation process for a trailing edge flap seal for AF-1, Australia’s first Super Hornet, with Carolyn Nichols, Boeing’s F/A-18F Super Hornet program manager for Australia, at Boeing Integrated Defense Systems facilities in St. Louis. The first Australian Super Hornet is scheduled to be delivered this month. RON BOOKOUT/BOEING

(RIGHT) The Royal Australian Air Force will be the second operator of the F/A-18F Super Hornet, with plans for a fleet of 24. A U.S. Navy Super Hornet is shown performing flight maneuvers. KEVIN FLYNN/BOEING



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– Carolyn Nichols, F/A-18F Super Hornet program manager for Australia



Employees help change TotalAccess

If you haven't visited the TotalAccess Web site lately you may be in for a surprise. That is unless you are one of the many employees who had a hand in redesigning the company's Web site for personalized Human Resources, payroll and benefits information.

"The site was always designed to help employees manage their company-related personal information," said Julie Drobny, TotalAccess manager. "But after years of adding new services, TotalAccess was overflowing with information and employees were telling us it was harder for them to quickly find what they were looking for."

Armed with employee feedback, ideas from Boeing Usability engineers and a look at other information-based Web sites, the TotalAccess team created three new designs—and asked employee focus groups what they liked and what they didn't.

What emerged is a revamped TotalAccess site with a cleaner, crisper look, a more intuitive navigation system and more secure presentation.

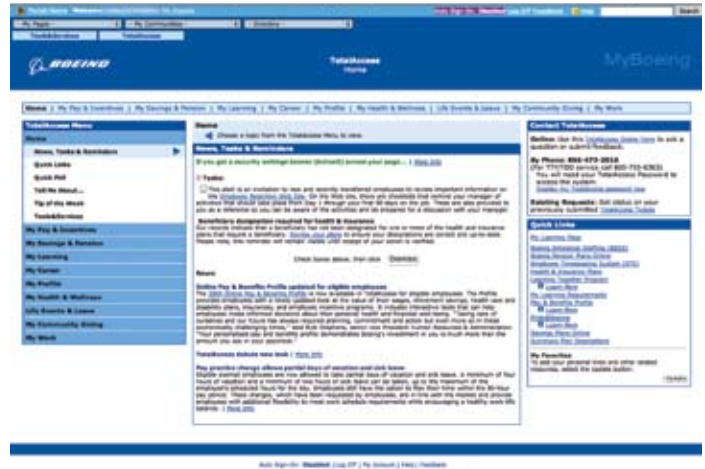


PHOTO: This screen-freeze of the upgraded TotalAccess Web site shows the Home page with News, Tasks and Reminders in the center column. Employees looking for other information can use the new navigation menu on the left side of the page.

Taya Cagle, Library Services, noticed there may be an extra click required for some services but appreciates the extra security the new site provides. "My personal information isn't displayed when I initially log in. I like that," she said.

"Our plans are to continue to improve service delivery to employees through TotalAccess," Drobny said. "We will work to make it easy to use, easy to find information and, above all, a secure place for employees to view and manage their personal Boeing-related information."

TotalAccess Web services are available at work on the MyBoeing employee portal and over the Internet through www.boeing.com/express.

— Ron Taylor



New ethics posters feature employees

Ethics and Business Conduct, part of the Office of Internal Governance, recently released new posters featuring employees talking about ethical leadership in their own words. "Regardless of job title or location, every employee is a leader when it comes to ethical decision-making," said Mike Mesick, vice president, Ethics and Business Conduct. "That's what we mean when we say 'Leadership Matters' and that's what the employees in the posters represent."

The posters are placed at Boeing sites worldwide and include information on resources for ethics questions or concerns, such as the Boeing Ethics Web site. The posters are part of the company's ethics awareness program and comply with requirements from the U.S. government.

Employees wishing to view all of the posters can check the Ethics Web site at <http://ethics.whq.boeing.com/lead/posters/index.html> on the Boeing intranet. More posters showing Boeing employees in other U.S. and international locations are planned.

— Ruth Savolaine



PHOTOS BY BOB FERGUSON/BOEING; DESIGN BY LYNN HANKS/BOEING