

June 14, 2004

Statement on Navy Awarding Boeing \$3.9 Billion Multi-mission Maritime Aircraft Award

Washington, D.C. -Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO), a member of the House Armed Services Committee, praised the awarding of a \$3.9 Billion contract to Boeing to build the Multi-mission Maritime Aircraft (MMA).

"The decision by the Navy to award Boeing the \$3.9 Billion contract to produce Multi-mission Maritime Aircraft is great news for Boeing, for the Navy and our Nation's capability to conduct maritime intelligence and reconnaissance activities," said Akin.

Around 200 employees, mostly engineers, are expected to be employed on this program at Boeing's St. Louis office.

The MMA is a Boeing 737 outfitted to replace the Navy's fleet of aging Lockheed Martin P-3 Orions. The US Navy's \$3.9 Billion contract is for system development and the demonstration (SDD) phase. Boeing will build seven SDD airframes, with the SDD phase running from 2004-12, low-rate initial production by 2008 and initial operating capability planned for 2013.

A total of 150 MMAs would be delivered to the USN, supplementing and eventually replacing the current fleet of 246 P-3s.