



NEWS RELEASE

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Vought Aircraft Industries-Global Aeronautica Manufacturing Complex in North Charleston, South Carolina, Wins Prestigious National Design-Build Award

The BE&K Building Group and Design-Build Partner BRPH Architects-Engineers Proudly Accept National Design-Build Award of Excellence at Design-Build Institute of America's (DBIA) Convention

Charlotte, North Carolina — The BE&K Building Group is pleased to announce that the Vought Aircraft Industries-Global Aeronautica Manufacturing Complex in North Charleston, South Carolina, has received the *2007 Design-Build Award of Excellence* — the highest honor possible for a design-build project — from the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA). At the multifaceted complex, carbon-fiber fuselage sections are produced and assembled for Boeing's recently inaugurated 787 Dreamliner, the fastest-selling airplane in commercial aviation history. Development of this advanced manufacturing complex — which has a construction value of \$122.6 million — represents the largest single capital investment in South Carolina in the past 10 years, second only to BMW's historic decision to bring its luxury car assembly to the state in 1992.

The design-build team of the BE&K Building Group and BRPH Architects-Engineers was chosen from a short list of aviation industry leaders to complete the complex on a 240-acre site adjacent to the Charleston, South Carolina, International Airport. In keeping with Vought's and Global Aeronautica's requirements for speed-to-market to meet Boeing's production schedule, the project was completed while the 787 aircraft was still on the drawing board. This meant that the facility had to be designed and built while the product's manufacturing requirements were still in development. *Only design-build* could provide the fast response necessary to meet the owner's changing requirements. Vought and Global Aeronautica were able to begin operations in mid-Summer 2006. Boeing rolled out the 787 Dreamliner in July 2007.

The Vought-Global Aeronautica complex is home to Vought's 342,000-square-foot composite fuselage production facility and 13,000-square-foot training/support facility, and Global Aeronautica's 334,000-square-foot assembly/integration facility and 65,280-square-foot paint facility. The 4,000-linear-foot Class V taxiway adjacent to Global Aeronautica supports operations to transport major sections of the Dreamliner prior to final assembly in Everett, Washington.

The \$122.6 million project was led by the BE&K Building Group's regional operation in Greenville, South Carolina. The 2007 National Design-Build Award of Excellence was presented during DBIA's Annual Design-Build Conference in Dallas, Texas, on November 1. The Vought-Global Aeronautica Complex — winner in the category, Industrial Process Sector Over \$25 Million — will be prominently featured in the December edition of DBIA's *Design-Build DATELINE* magazine.

Dallas, Texas-based Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc. is one of the world's largest independent suppliers of aerostructures. Global Aeronautica, LLC represents a joint venture formed between Vought Aircraft Industries and Alenia North America, Inc.

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Additional Project Recognition Awards— The other four awards received for this project include: Best of 2006/Project of the Year (Industrial Category) from *Southeast Construction* magazine; First Place/2006 (Private Sector Buildings Over \$15 Million Category) from DBIA's Southeast Chapter; 2006 ABC Eagle Award for Excellence in Construction (Industrial Projects \$5 million-\$99 million Category) from the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), Carolinas Chapter; and the 2006 Palmetto Architecture, Construction and Engineering (PACE) Award of Honor (Industrial Category) presented by the *Charleston Regional Business Journal*.

More About the Project — Vought Aircraft's 787 Dreamliner Composite Fuselage Production Facility — the main production facility at the complex — was designed and constructed specifically to fabricate aft carbon fiber composite fuselage sections for Boeing's new 787 Dreamliner commercial aircraft. The BE&K Building Group completed this design-build project in just 54 weeks. The 787 Dreamliner Composite Fuselage Production Facility's structure incorporates 70,000 square feet of Class 300,000 cleanroom manufacturing area, 270,000 square feet of conditioned general manufacturing area, 2,000 square feet of cooler/freezer capacity, and 23,000 square feet of mezzanine-level administrative office space. Included with this facility is a 13,125-square-foot central energy plant providing electrical, vacuum, compressed air, and HVAC services, and the world's largest gas-fired autoclave by volume.

The project presented unique design challenges for our team due to the size of the fuselage sections to be produced in the facility. The cavernous manufacturing building houses 38 independent process equipment cells, each with unique, state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment. Half of the cells house enormous machines requiring specialized deep foundations with varying degrees of complexity. The remaining cells have multistory work platforms to allow personnel to work on the fuselage. The autoclave, a pressurization vessel used to cure the composite material, is the largest one in the world. Despite these challenges, the design-build effort was completed in an extremely short 13-month timeframe in keeping with the Owner's (Vought's) requirements for speed-to-market to meet its own client's needs (i.e., Boeing's production schedule).

Co-located with Vought's 787 Dreamliner Composite Fuselage Production Facility is a second production building —an assembly and integration facility constructed for Global Aeronautica, LLC. This joint venture formed between Vought Aircraft Industries and Alenia North America, Inc. supports the Boeing 787 Dreamliner program. Global Aeronautica joins and integrates fuselage sections from Vought, Alenia Aeronautica S.p.A. of Italy and other structural partners, which together produce more than 60 percent of the 787 fuselage.

"This is a world-class manufacturing complex, designed and constructed by the best in the industry," said Vought CEO Elmer Doty. "We are very pleased with the way it came together and wish to congratulate the entire design-build team on a job well done."

Global Aeronautica Chairman Vincenzo Caiazzo added, "Innovative relationships brought this venture to Charleston and we stand in awe of this accomplishment and its ties to Alenia and Voughts' commitment to construct a state-of-the-art production complex. Caiazzo is also COO of Alenia North America.

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About the BE&K Building Group — The BE&K Building Group is a leading construction services firm with an established track record for serving commercial, healthcare, industrial, and institutional clients throughout the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. Based in Charlotte, the BE&K Building Group also has commercial operations in seven other locations: Atlanta; Birmingham; Greenville (SC); Nashville; Orlando; Raleigh; and Washington, D.C. The BE&K Building Group's parent company is Birmingham-based BE&K, Inc.

The BE&K Building Group is listed at **No. 12 in *Southeast Construction* magazine's annual ranking of the Southeast's Top Contractors** (published Spring 2007). *Southeast Construction's* Top Contractors ranking is based upon each firm's 2006 revenue generated from projects within a four-state region — North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Georgia.

The BE&K Building Group has project capability in a number of market sectors, with specific focus on Life Sciences, Commercial (including Mixed-use), Education, Entertainment/Sports/Leisure, Food and Beverage, Healthcare, Hospitality, Manufacturing/Distribution, and Public Facilities. The BE&K Building Group's projects have a rich history of recognition for design and construction excellence.

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About BE&K, Inc. — Since its founding in 1972, Birmingham-based BE&K, Inc. — through a variety of construction and engineering subsidiaries — has been a major force in pulp and paper, power and heavy industrial construction, as well as design and maintenance. BE&K, Inc. currently ranks #45 on *Engineering News-Record's* (ENR) prestigious list of Top 400 Contractors and is one of the Southeast's largest employee-owned and privately held companies. BE&K has been recognized as an industry leader in family friendly workplace practices, honored as a recipient of *Working Woman* magazine's "Diversity Champion" award, included in *Fortune's* listing of "Best Places to Work in America," and is on *Forbes* listing of the "Top 400 Privately Held Companies in the U.S."

About BRPH Architects-Engineers — BRPH Architects-Engineers, Inc. (BRPH) has provided comprehensive design and construction services for more than 40 years, specializing in the aerospace, corporate/industrial, government, education, and entertainment markets. They are listed among the 500 largest design firms in the United States by Engineering News Record (ENR). For the past five years the firm has been recognized as one of the fastest growing architecture, engineering, planning, and environmental companies in the United States. Building Design & Construction magazine lists BRPH in the top tier of its list of "Giants" of the design industry and Southeast Construction magazine consistently ranks them as one of the premier design firms in the southeast. . In addition to its headquarters in Melbourne, Florida, the firm has offices in Orlando, West Palm Beach, and Fort Myers, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; and Greenville, South Carolina. (www.brph.com)

About Vought — Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc. is one of the world's largest independent suppliers of aerostructures. Headquartered in Dallas, the company designs and manufactures major airframe structures such as wings, fuselage subassemblies, empennages, nacelles and other components for prime manufacturers of aircraft. Vought has annual sales of approximately \$1.6 billion and about 6,000 employees in nine U.S. locations. (www.voughtaircraft.com)

About Global Aeronautica — Global Aeronautica, LLC is a 50/50 joint venture formed between Vought Aircraft Industries and Alenia North America, Inc., a Finmeccanica company. Global Aeronautica's integration entails the joining of the fuselage sections and the installation and testing of associated elements. Surface finishes are then applied to more than 60 percent of the 787 fuselage prior to shipment to Boeing's final assembly facility in Everett, Washington.