SPIRIT AEROSYSTEMS DELIVERS KEY COMPONENTS FOR 500TH BOEING 787 DREAMLINER

News / Manufacturer

Spirit AeroSystems Inc. announced it has successfully delivered key components to Boeing for the 500th 787 Dreamliner. Spirit builds the 787 forward fuselage and engine pylons at its Wichita, Kan., facility and the wing fixed leading edge and wing moveable leading edge in Tulsa, Okla., and Subang, Malaysia. The company has been delivering these assemblies and components to the 787 program since 2007 and unit 500 was delivered to Boeing in September.

“Spirit is extremely proud of our collaboration with Boeing and the work we do together to build the world’s fastest-selling twin-aisle airplane, the 787,” said Tom Gentile, Spirit AeroSystems president and chief executive officer. “Reaching 500 is a significant milestone for Spirit, and we look forward to building on this partnership as we continue to deliver high-quality products to Boeing.”

Spirit delivers a fully integrated forward fuselage structure on the 787 program, with all flight controls tested and installed. The composite forward fuselage section, known as section 41, is built

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using auto fiber placement machines winding composite tape into a one-piece fuselage section. The completed structure is assembled using Spirit Exact™, a proprietary assembly process using pre-located holes and automated riveters. The 787 pioneered the use of composites in large-scale commercial airplanes.

“Without the amazing efforts of our talented employees, 500 deliveries would not have been possible,” said Duane Hawkins, Spirit AeroSystems senior vice president and general manager of Boeing programs. “Our employees take great pride in delivering a high-quality product on time, and we look forward to continuing for many years to come.”

Spirit employs about 15,000 people worldwide designing and building complex aerostructures for the world’s most recognizable airplanes. Spirit builds the forward fuselage section of every Boeing commercial airplane in production today as well as wing and propulsion components.

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