



ARSAG INTERNATIONAL

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The Aerial Refueling Systems Advisory Group

Newsletter

July '07

## ARSAG '08

8 - 10 April  
Rosen Plaza Hotel  
Orlando Florida

*Meeting the needs of the international  
aerial refueling community*

- the annual conference of the Aerial Refueling Systems Advisory Group (ARSAG)
- DoD Joint Standardization Board (JSB);
- distinguished key-note and guest speakers;
- timely reports and briefings;
- interesting and informative exhibits;
- interactive discussions, question and answer opportunities;
- break-out meetings for special topics;
- inter-service & international participation;
- planning underway for static aircraft display
- first-class conference & hotel facilities; and
- military and industry participation.

### ARSAG '08 Special Notice

Preliminary discussions are underway with senior officers at MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida, regarding a static aircraft display in conjunction with the ARSAG '08 conference 8-10 April in Orlando. Advance indications regarding the provision of aircraft parking space for a static display and the willingness of MacDill personnel to provide coordination have been favorable.

The display of aerial refueling tanker and receiver aircraft, tentatively scheduled for Friday, 11 April, will be a fitting celebration of ARSAG's 30<sup>th</sup> year.

In order for firm plans to be made, interest in providing aircraft for the event must be confirmed. A few verbal offers to participate already have been communicated to us. Any government or commercial agency interested in providing aircraft for this static display is requested to please contact Dex Kalt at [arsaginc@earthlink.net](mailto:arsaginc@earthlink.net) or ph: 937 431-8106 or cell: 937 287-9790. Details will be provided as plans develop.

### ARSAG '07 Minutes Posted to Website

Minutes from the ARSAG '07 conference held in April in Las Vegas are posted to the ARSAG website at [www.arsaginc.com](http://www.arsaginc.com)

13 - 15 November

## DOD Joint Standardization Board to Meet

Dayton, Ohio

The DOD Joint Standardization Board for Aerial Refueling Systems will meet 13-15 November 2007 at MTC Technologies, Inc. (MTC), 4032 Linden Avenue Dayton, Ohio. Details will be posted to the ARSAG website at [www.arsaginc.com](http://www.arsaginc.com).

ARSAG is a joint military-industry professional association formally chartered by the Department of Defense as the DOD Joint Standardization Board for Aerial Refueling Systems as prescribed by DOD 4140.24-M. ARSAG develops standards, military specifications, NATO STANAGs, procedures and designs for aerial refueling systems.

Through the JSB, aerial refueling standardization work can be documented and made readily available to the aerial refueling community.

Farhad Choudhury of NAVAIR is serving as Chairman of the ARSAG JSB for the current year. As specified in DoD guidelines, The U.S. Air Force has been invited to provide a Chairperson for the ARSAG JSB during 2008.

### Topics for discussion and action will be:

- STANAG 3447 Guide Document review and draft completion;
- STANAG 7191 and proposed Guide Document;
- Lighting, Markings and Formation Aids;
- Aerial Refueling Clearances Repository;
- US Military Specifications; and
- Maintenance Guide Document.

Meeting times are from 0800 to 1630 on 13 and 14 November, and from 0800 to 1200 on 15 November.

ARSAG members who are interested in the discussion topics are invited to be a part of this meeting of the ARSAG JSB.

*Dex Kalt, ARSAG Executive Director*

### NATO Releases AAR Document

Lt Col John Fletcher, JAPCC, informs us that the document "Future of Air-to-Air Refuelling In NATO" has been approved for release. A link to the document is provided on the ARSAG website at [www.arsaginc.com](http://www.arsaginc.com).

## Three EADS tankers fly into the Le Bourget air show

The first production A330 MRTT (Multi Role Tanker Transport) destined for the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) took time out from flight-testing to go on show at the Le Bourget air show in Paris, France. The aircraft started life as an A330-200 built by Airbus and was converted into an MRTT in Getafe Spain. The aircraft is fitted with two wing pods and the EADS aerial refuelling boom system (ARBS) as proposed for the Northrop Grumman KC-30, contender in the KC-135 replacement competition. The A330 MRTT will now continue flight-testing and development activities until its entry into service with the RAAF in 2009.



Also at Le Bourget giving a flying exhibition was the EADS A310 Boom Demonstrator, which displayed the boom lowered



and fully extended to the many military delegations from around the world present at the show. This aircraft has been used for development and flight trials of the ARBS and its

associated systems eg the flight control laws of the fly-by-wire boom and the enhanced vision system used by the boomer.

To complete the trio of EADS tankers at the show was the Luftwaffe A310 MRTT, which also gave a daily flying display, trailing its wing pod hoses in front of the large crowds. This aircraft is the first of the new generation tankers in service today with the German Air Force.



**OVER THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY --** Two F-16 Fighting Falcons move into a precontact position with a KC-135E Stratotanker before refueling during an Operation Noble Eagle training patrol March 16. The F-16s are assigned to the California Air National Guard's 144th Fighter Wing in Fresno and the



KC-135 is assigned to the 940th Aerial Refueling Wing at Beale Air Force Base, Calif. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Lance Cheung)

## Ceremonies mark official start for Air Mobility Rodeo 2007

7/22/2007 - MCCORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. (AFPN) -- The head of Air Mobility Command welcomed more than 2,500 competitors and observers from the U.S. and 34 other countries July 22 to the largest Air Mobility Rodeo in history.

"The fact that we had so many allies and friends that came to join us in this great competition, I can't tell you what that means to me as the leader of U.S. mobility air forces," said Gen. Duncan J. McNabb, commander of AMC, which has its headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.



A low ceiling of clouds obscured all but the flanks of nearby 14,410-foot Mount Rainier, which normally dominates the McChord AFB horizon. Two members of the base's 22nd Special Tactics Squadron parachuted from a C-17 Globemaster III, one carrying the U.S. flag to a grassy area adjacent to a flightline crowded with airlift and refueling aircraft.

General McNabb, Rodeo Commander Brig. Gen. Kip L. Self and 62nd Airlift Wing Commander Col. Jerry Martinez of McChord AFB wore cowboy hats and rode horses to a platform where they addressed participants.

Wearing an off-white cowboy hat and the Air Force's new Airman battle uniform, General McNabb acknowledged the talented reservists and Air National Guard troops present, cautioning active-duty competitors to not let down their defenses.

"In many cases it's a Total Force member who is not active duty who takes home all of the titles," he said

General McNabb paid tribute to modern air mobility warriors who, he said, have been "tested in the crucible of war" and taken their places among those of the past who flew supplies over the Himalayas in World War II, sustained the post-war Berlin Airlift and completed four decades of Cold War missions. Air Mobility Rodeo is the command's premier event in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Air Force's founding Sept. 18, 1947.

by Senior Master Sgt. Matt Proietti  
Air Mobility Rodeo 2007 Public Affairs

### KC-135, C-17 crews rendezvous for refuel readiness

A C-17 Globemaster III approaches the boom of a KC-135 Stratotanker June 18 during aerial refueling practice. A KC-135 Stratotanker from the 909th Air Refueling Squadron,



at Kadena Air Base, Japan is at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, practicing with a C-17 Globemaster III from the 535th Airlift Squadron for the Air Mobility Command Rodeo. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)

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### Call for Briefings

If you have a briefing or report on an aerial refueling topic that you wish to present at the ARSAG '08 conference, 8-10 April, in Orlando, please contact Dex Kalt at 937 431-8106 or [arsaginc@earthlink.net](mailto:arsaginc@earthlink.net). If your briefing is suitable for a particular panel session, you will be put in contact with the lead chair for that panel.

## Boeing 787 is Rolled Out

EVERETT, Wash., July 08, 2007 -- Today, Boeing [NYSE: BA] officially debuted the technologically advanced and environmentally progressive 787 Dreamliner in a celebration attended by employees, airline customers, supplier partners and government and community officials.

The 787 Dreamliner Premiere was broadcast live in nine different languages via satellite to more than 45 countries and webcast via [www.boeing.com](http://www.boeing.com) and [www.newairplane.com](http://www.newairplane.com). Distinguished journalist and best-selling author Tom Brokaw served as the master of ceremonies for the event.



Approximately 15,000 people attended the

Premiere at the Everett, Wash., final assembly factory. More than 30,000 participated via two-way satellite into the event in Everett from Japan, Italy and locations in the United States. As many as 90 other locations around the globe involving 787 customers, partners and many Boeing employees also chose to download the event live or watch it pre-recorded and host their own viewing event.

In all, the 787 Premiere potentially reached 100 million or more viewers, making it one of the largest corporate TV and Internet broadcasts in history.

"This has been a wonderful and exciting day to celebrate this breakthrough airplane with our customers, employees, supplier partners and our communities," said Scott Carson, Boeing Commercial Airplanes president and CEO. "We are gratified that the 787 has been so strongly validated in the marketplace by our customers. Their response is proof that the Dreamliner will bring real value to our airline customers, passengers and the global air transportation system."

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner, the world's first mostly composite commercial airplane, will use 20 percent less fuel per passenger than similarly sized airplanes, produce fewer carbon emissions, and will have quieter takeoffs and landings.

"Our journey began some six years ago when we knew we were on the cusp of delivering valuable technologies that would make an economic difference to our airline customers. In our business, that happens every 15 or so years, so we have to get it right," said Mike Bair, Boeing Commercial Airplanes vice president/general manager of the 787 program. "I am so proud of the men and women of Boeing and of our partner employees in the 70 companies that have brought this airplane to the passengers of the world."

Following the premiere, the first 787 Dreamliner will be completed in the Everett factory - including the installation of final systems elements, interiors and flight test equipment. First flight of the airplane is expected in late August or September. A total of six airplanes will be included in the flight test program, which will conclude in May 2008 with the certification of the airplane followed shortly by the first delivery of a 787 to ANA.

To date, 47 customers worldwide have ordered 677 airplanes worth more than \$110 billion at current list prices, making the Dreamliner the most successful commercial airplane launch in history. The first 787 is scheduled to enter passenger service in May 2008.

Amid the 787 roll-out celebrations, one event may have received less notice than it warranted. On Saturday night,

Boeing had all of the 787 airline representatives at an event at the Museum of Flight. At 7:07 PM, an Omega Air Refueling Services 707 landed in front of the crowd (after taking off from Paine Field in Everett). At 7:17, an AirTran 717 landed. This continued until 8:17 when an Air France 777-300ER landed. In the end, the 707, 717, 727, 737, 747, 757, 767, and 777 were lined up nose-to-tail on the taxiway. It is the first time Boeing has had every 7-series airplane in the same place (not counting the 787, which couldn't make the flight, of course).



15-17 January '08

## ARSAG Winter Meeting

Washington D.C.

**15 January, Planning Meeting:**  
**The annual Planning Meeting for ARSAG Panel Chairs and Steering Group is scheduled for Tuesday, 15 January '08.**  
**The ARSAG Panel Chairs and Steering Group will plan the agenda for the ARSAG '08 conference to be held 8 - 10 April at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida.**

**16, 17 January, DOD Joint Standardization Board:**  
**A meeting of the DOD Joint Standardization Board for Aerial Refueling Systems will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, 16 and 17 January.**  
**The meetings will be held at:**  
**Boeing, Suite 160 1200 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA, a location convenient to Washington D.C.'s Reagan National airport and hotels. Details, a map, hotel information and an agenda will be posted on the ARSAG website at [www.arsaginc.com](http://www.arsaginc.com).**

### Notice to ARSAG Steering Group and Panel Chairs

It is not too early to begin planning the agenda for ARSAG '08.

**The goal of the 15 January planning meeting is to finalize a constructive and interesting ARSAG '08 conference agenda. In order to accomplish this goal, it will be necessary for ARSAG Panel Chairs and the Steering Group to plan in advance.**

**Panel Chairs** are asked to begin formulating outlines for briefing topics for their panel's sessions and contacting potential briefers.

**Steering Group** members are requested to be prepared to offer inputs regarding aerial refueling topics for discussion at the ARSAG '08 conference. In addition, Steering Group members traditionally offer status reports regarding their organizations at the annual conference.

**If any member of the aerial refueling community has inputs regarding the conference, please contact Dex Kalt at 937 431-8106 or [arsaginc@earthlink.net](mailto:arsaginc@earthlink.net). Your suggestions are welcomed.**  
**Dex Kalt, ARSAG Executive Director**