



**WASHINGTON
AEROSPACE
PARTNERSHIP**

August 26, 2009

For more information call: 206-953-8932

**Washington Aerospace Partnership Statement
on Boeing Plans to Begin Permitting Process in South Carolina**

Washington is the best place in the world to build commercial and military planes. More than 50 large commercial planes are built here every month.

We have a skilled labor force, a strong and supportive community, and local and state governments working to ensure that future generations of Boeing planes are built in Washington. Washington has learned to streamline its permitting process to meet the needs of the Aerospace industry; South Carolina has never permitted an aerospace facility of this scale.

The Washington Aerospace Partnership understands Boeing's approach to building airplane parts throughout the world. The Partnership will continue to work to strengthen our position as an international aerospace leader and encourage all parties to work together to address changes that need to be made so we can continue to build aircraft and the aerospace industry for years to come. But we also believe that an objective analysis of the factors relevant to successful assembly of commercial aircraft will lead Boeing and other aerospace companies to conclude that Washington is the optimal state to assemble new generation aircraft, including the 787.

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The Washington Aerospace Partnership is a diverse coalition of business and labor leaders, civic and elected officials, and private citizens across Washington who are joining to ensure that we protect and expand jobs in aerospace. It is co-chaired by Bob Drewel, Prosperity Partnership, Rick Bender, Washington State AFL-CIO, and Tayloe Washburn, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce.