

Feature Story

Wedgetail availability to be boosted by local air cycle machine servicing

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Boeing supplier, RUAG Australia, is on track to be the first Australian company to achieve Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) accreditation to repair E-7A Wedgetail Air Cycle Machines (ACM).

The ACM provides cabin pressurisation and air conditioning, and regular servicing is essential to combat corrosion and wear-and-tear caused by exposure to moisture and ice during flight.

“Our work with RUAG Australia to build this capability locally is a win for Australian defence industry as well contributing to Boeing Defence Australia’s commitment to ensuring the highest levels of aircraft availability,” said Boeing Defence Australia Director Wedgetail Programs, Claire Kluge.

RUAG Australia has successfully completed repairs and calibration on a test rig and the first ACM has recently been formally inducted for test and repair.

“We anticipate that RUAG Australia will achieve MRO accreditation within the next couple of months,” said Kluge.

RUAG Australia specialises in precision manufacturing, maintenance, repair and overhaul, metal treatment, finishing, and engineering.

“We’re proud to be supporting Boeing across a number of platforms, utilizing our highly experienced local workforce of engineers, technicians and program managers and look forward to this continued business relationship,” said Terry Miles, General Manager of RUAG Australia.

RUAG Australia supports a range of Boeing programs including F/A-18F Super Hornet, E-7A Wedgetail, CH-47 Chinook and, most recently, Loyal Wingman.

“We are pleased to have such a strong relationship with a capable supplier and will continue to work with RUAG to look for further opportunities to grow MRO capabilities locally,” said Kluge.