# AVIATION WEEK ST. DLOGY

A PUBLICATION

THE McGRAW-HILL COMPA

S · \$5.00 · AUGUST 25, 1997

### AUSTRALIA'S NEW DEFENSE STRATEGY

PAGE 50

PAGE 42

MAGLU DU PHAT

## AVILATION About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is aircraft for these PC-9s f aerobatic p. 50). Australia is About Australia is Australia i

### Australia is going to keep its current aircraft for another two decades, like these PC-9s flown by the RAAF Roulettes aerobatic demonstration team (see p. 50). Australian Defense Dept. photo. The Boeing 737-800 flew for the first time on July 31 (see p. 42). Boeing photo by Ken Dejarlais.

About the Cover



### **HEADLINE NEWS**

Yeltsin plans to shore up Russia's defense sector

Russian president approves plan to step up goverment support of aerospace/defense sector

Be-103 in Moscow air show crash

Beriev Be-103 multipurpose amphibian crashes at takeoff

U.S. regains export lead America, Britain lead world in conventional arms exports agreements Audit: U.K. defense programs over budget, behind schedule Half of 25 major defense equipment programs over budget 23

Crew awaits outcome of delayed Mir repair

U.S./Russian crew prepares
for high-stakes repair operation 26

Cost-effective Explorer to sample galaxy's composition 30

Spacecraft problems, DSN time slow Mars data stream Pathfinder mission follows

1 rocky road

### AIR TRANSPORT

Chain of errors downed ValuJet

NTSB blames arline, maintenance contractor and FAA for crash 3

Proposed rule would ban oxidizers from most aircraft 38

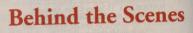
Korean Air rescue flawed

31

Delays in extinguishing flames may have contributed to death toll 39

New Delta chief faces delicate balancing act

Leo F. Mullin's new role as Delta Air Lines president-CEO



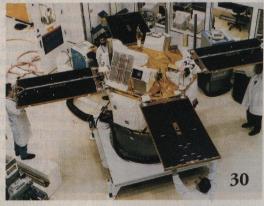
Michael Hewett, Boeing's Chief Pilot 737
Programs (left), discusses the upcoming
737-700 flight with Aviation Week & Space
Technology Editor-in-Chief David M.
North. The evaluation flight of the first
of the next-generation 737s spanned 1.7
hr. and three landings at Moses LakeGrant County Airport. The 737-700 is
scheduled to receive its FAA certification
within a month, with deliveries to Southwest scheduled to start in October. The
737-700 pilot report begins on p. 42.



20







### http://www.awgnet.com

Aviation Week's Web site offers selected articles from the current issue, as well as daily news updates, the Safety Resource Center, a gallery of photos and features from special issues. It's also a great jumping off spot for surfing to other aerospace sites. We're available on CompuServe, too; just GO AWG.

### Delta, ValuJet get STCs for new cargo bay systems

Delta gets supplemental type certificate for smoke detection, fire suppression sytems

American Eagle pilots ratify long-term contract American Eagle, AMR Corp. landmark labor agreement

### **BOEING 737-700 PILOT REPORT**

New 737 shows off operating improvements Operators to fly higher, faster, farther with newest member of the 737 family

Boeing enters bizjet fray with strong BBJ orderbook Boeing predicts it will corner 40% of 600 long-range bizjets to

be delivered in the next decade 42

### **DEFENSE STRATEGY** Surveillance, comm links

**AUSTRALIA'S NEW** 

dominate upgrade plans Top planners reshape the military for the 21st century

Australia to join JSF program soon

Country will have to seek funds to replace major aircraft types, such as the F-11 and F/A-18

### Key intelligence role seen for AEW&C

Australia triggers cutthroat competition for a new marketmedium-cost AEW&C aircraft

Ingara demonstrates surveillance potential

Defense planners seek to expand broad-area surveillance capability 56

Over-the-horizon radar coverage to triple

JORN project completion expected just after turn of century

Northern strategy drives modernization

Newest air base, RAF Scherger, to be completed before year's end 60

Expanded EW range features air combat

Extensive upgrades planned for RAAF 500,000-acre EW range

UAVs, precision missiles pace Australia's future

The future entails making bold choices about new technologies

Arianespace looks ahead

Consortium's business strategy must adapt to market shifts

### **DEPARTMENTS**

Correspondence	
Who's Where	son flex addition
Market Focus	1
Industry Outlook	
Airline Outlook	1
News Breaks	10
Washington Outlook	19
In Orbit	

Classified ......67

Contact Us ......68

Aerospace Calendar ......69

Don't cut front line	
of nuclear defense	

AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY/AUGUST 25, 1997