



SPIRIT AEROSYSTEMS BREAKS GROUND ON NORTH CAROLINA FACILITY New Facility to Focus on Airbus A350 XWB Program

Kinston, N.C., Sept. 15, 2008 – Spirit AeroSystems, Inc. [NYSE: SPR], the world's largest independent supplier of commercial airplane assemblies and components, today broke ground on a new 500,000-square-foot facility at the North Carolina Global TransPark near Kinston.

Spirit is building the plant in Lenoir County, N.C., to accommodate the design and manufacture of the center fuselage frame section for the Airbus A350 XWB (Xtra Wide-Body) commercial aircraft.

"Today's groundbreaking ceremony marks a significant milestone in Spirit's global reach," said Dan Wheeler, Spirit Vice President/General Manager, North Carolina Business Unit. "This new manufacturing facility will allow Spirit to serve our customer, Airbus, by offering quality-built components that can be transported to Europe conveniently and quickly by freighter from a nearby seaport."

Spirit won a contract with Airbus in May to design and produce the A350 XWB's composite fuselage structure, known as Section 15, which will be approximately 65 feet long, 20 feet wide and weigh nearly 9,000 pounds. The company also will produce the front spars for the aircraft's wings at the Kinston plant, which is scheduled to be operational in 2010.

Designed with airlines' priorities in mind, the A350 XWB confronts the challenges of high fuel prices, rising passenger expectations and increasing environmental concerns.

"No aircraft in history has been better matched with airline requirements and market trends than the A350 XWB," said Allan McArtor, Chairman of Airbus Americas.

"With orders topping 450 and climbing, it's clear that this is what our customers are looking for," McArtor said. "The program is made ever more appealing by our ability to manufacture and assemble elements where the expertise is local – in this case at Spirit in Kinston. We take growing pride in the U.S. content of our aircraft and the American jobs that content supports. This new Spirit facility will help make our newest aircraft a truly global creation."

Spirit's long-term plans for the Global TransPark plant are to serve as a composite engineering and manufacturing Center of Excellence, using advanced technology in its production processes.

"Today's groundbreaking shows that eastern North Carolina is competing successfully in today's marketplace, and that North Carolina continues to be a leader in the aerospace industry," said North Carolina Governor Mike Easley at the ceremony.

In addition to Easley, Wheeler and McArtor, participating in the formal groundbreaking program were John Lewelling, Spirit Senior Vice President–Aerostructures; Gene Conti, Vice Chairman, North Carolina Global TransPark Authority; and Jessie Thomas Bunn, Chairman of the Board, North Carolina’s Golden LEAF Foundation.

Spirit, with headquarters in Wichita, Kan. is a major supplier of airplane components to global manufacturers Airbus, Boeing, Gulfstream, Cessna, Rolls-Royce and Sikorsky, among others. The company specializes in manufacturing advanced composite and metallic components, including fuselages, pylons, nacelles and wing structures. It employs 14,000 people in five locations in the United States and Europe, including approximately 10,000 in Wichita.

The Spirit project at Global TransPark culminated as a result of a close collaboration among local, state, public and private entities, including the North Carolina General Assembly, the state’s community college system, and the not-for-profit Golden LEAF Foundation, and was facilitated by a package of state and local incentives.

About Spirit AeroSystems Inc.

Based in Wichita, Kan., Spirit AeroSystems is the world’s largest independent supplier of commercial airplane assemblies and components. In addition to its Kansas facility, Spirit has locations in Tulsa and McAlester, Okla., Prestwick, Scotland, and Samlesbury, England, and is developing new facilities in North Carolina and Malaysia. In the U.S., Spirit’s core products include fuselages, pylons, nacelles and wing components. Additionally, Spirit provides aftermarket customer support services, including spare parts, maintenance/repair/overhaul, and fleet support services in North America and Europe. Spirit Europe produces wing components for a host of customers, including Airbus.

This press release contains forward-looking statements concerning future business opportunities. Actual results may vary materially from those projected as a result of certain risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to future levels of business in the aerospace and commercial transport industries or in the number of aircraft to be built; the success and timely progression of our customers’ new programs; challenges in the design, development, production and support of advanced technologies; as well as other risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to those detailed in Spirit AeroSystems Holdings, Inc. Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

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