

# Navy Orders 11 P-8A Aircraft for \$1.6 Billion



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*U.S. NAVY*

ARLINGTON, Va. – The U.S. Navy has awarded a \$1.6 billion production contract to Boeing for 11 P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol reconnaissance aircraft, nine for the U.S. Navy and two for the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

The Naval Air Systems Command contract modification was announced March 31 by the Defense Department.

The contract brings the total number of U.S. Navy P-8A aircraft under contract to 128 and the RAAF total to 14. Australia has been a cooperative partner in the P-8A joint program since 2009.

Other nations have ordered Poseidons through Foreign Military Sales. The United Kingdom is procuring nine; Norway, five; New Zealand, four; and South Korea, six.

Through direct commercial sales, India has received or has ordered a total of 12 P-8I versions, which it calls Neptunes.

“The P-8A continues to be an invaluable asset and these additional aircraft will help deliver expanded maritime patrol and reconnaissance capabilities to the fleet,” said Capt. Eric Gardner, program manager for the U.S. Navy’s Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Program Office, quoted in a March 31 Boeing release.

“We continue to hear feedback from deployed Navy squadrons who tell us the P-8A is exceeding expectations,” Stu Voboril, vice president and program manager for Boeing’s P-8A program, said in the release. “Our focus is on delivering the world’s best

maritime patrol aircraft. That only happens when teams truly collaborate, listen and focus on customer priorities.”