

Around a table at a group workshop during the recent Shared Services Group International Services meeting of international office business managers are Jen Tsao (from left), Joy Pu, Molly Han, Mike Duong and Koichi Nagao.

KEITH WOOD PHOTO

# AROUND BOEING

## SSG STRENGTHENS BOEING GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Flexible and responsive procurement options. Tighter financial controls. These are just some of the improvements at Boeing's international offices, and they were set in motion at a recent gathering hosted by Shared Services Group.

SSG service delivery leaders and more than 40 international office business managers met last month in Washington, D.C. Together, they advanced the realignment of SSG international offices and improved delivery of services to Boeing employees at non-U.S. sites.

Small-group gatherings helped implement changes in procurement, finance, staffing and relocation, and travel planning and accounting. The session created an international services advisory board and expanded site business continuity plans.

The improvements support the Boeing Internal Services Productivity company-wide growth and productivity initiative.

"By assisting our Boeing business partners at international sites," said SSG President Mary Armstrong, "we have a tremendous opportunity to improve Boeing productivity and enable growth."

"I feel we are poised to make maximum use of global knowledge and presence to

benefit Boeing business," said Laurette Koellner, president of Boeing International, who attended the session on March 15.

A robust global infrastructure, said Koellner, ensures that Boeing complies with non-U.S.-country laws, connects its industry teammates and provides essential services to its employees.

As an international aerospace enterprise, Boeing has manufacturing, development and investment interests around the world and sells its products to customers in more than 90 countries. Thousands of Boeing employees work in 70 countries.

## MESA, ARIZ., SITE MARKS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

This year, 4,700 Boeing Rotorcraft Systems employees are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Mesa, Ariz., site.

Since the site's 1982 groundbreaking, the desert landscape has evolved into 2 million square feet of production and office space and 25 buildings. Employees work on everything from AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopters to electrical subassemblies for programs across Boeing.

The U-shaped Apache assembly line at Mesa features a Lean Manufacturing process that earned the site the prestigious 2005 Shingo Prize for Excellence in Manufac-

turing. The site was recognized for reducing the lost-workday rate by 74 percent and manufacturing-cycle time by 40 percent.

"We are committed to maintaining a long-term presence in Arizona," said Mesa site leader Obie Jones. "Ongoing programs and opportunities all will help ensure we remain a vital part of the Arizona landscape that employees have helped shape and transform." ■



BOEING GRAPHIC

The Boeing site in Mesa, Ariz., is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Mesa is the home of the AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopter, whose customers include Greece. Above is a photo rendering of an AH-64D for the Hellenic Army in Greece.