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## BOEING PROJECT MOVES HERE

### Heath site unveils radar facility, brings in 20 jobs

By JASON MCALISTER  
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HEATH — State and city leaders gathered at The Boeing Co.'s Heath location Tuesday to celebrate the completion of a new facility designed to calibrate radar detectors mounted on military surveillance aircraft.

Nearly 100 people, including Lt. Gov. Bruce Johnson, Mayor Dan Dupps and county commissioners, attended the ceremony.

The new facility consists of a 15,000-square-foot room with an 800-square-foot chamber room inside.

The inner walls of the chamber resemble a blue porcupine turned outside in.

Blue pyramid-shaped foam pieces point inward toward a radar detector attached to a mount.

At one end of the chamber, radio frequencies are fired at the detector, called an Electronic Support Measures Radio Frequency Antenna System, which receives the signal, allowing technicians to calibrate it.

Boeing previously ran the facility in Corinth, Texas.

But with the help of a \$1.5 million research and development loan from the state and \$500,000 loaned to Boeing from the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority, the facility was moved to the Heath



Boeing design engineer Richard Ketchum, of Seattle, stands inside an anechoic chamber Tuesday at Boeing-Heath and talks about a radar-detecting antenna he helped design for U.S. Air Force airplanes. (Morgan Wonorski, *The Advocate*)

site at the Central Ohio Aerospace and Technology Center.

About 20 repair and testing technicians moved from Texas to the Newark-Heath area for the new facility.

Boeing electronic technician Craig Mills has settled into a new house in Newark.

"Newark is different," said Mills, originally from Stephenville, Texas. "It's not that hot, but it's humid."

Though Mills was one of a small number of new employees who moved to Boeing-Heath, executives from the company focused on how the new facility will

help the growth of the plant.

"I believe that other jobs will follow because of this, within the Boeing family," Dupps said.

Mike Emmelhainz, center director at Boeing-Heath, also alluded to future growth because of the move.

"Future growth allows us

to keep costs down, stay competitive and better serve our customers," Emmelhainz said.

Rick Platt, executive director of the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority, said the new facility marks a milestone for the Port Authority.

"It's hard not to reflect

that this is the 10-year anniversary of the base's privatization," Platt said. "This is really a bellwether for the base and is day one for hopefully more to come."

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