



Aerospace Trade Supports Jobs at Home and the War Fighter Abroad

Foreign markets stabilize hundreds of thousands of high-wage all-American aerospace manufacturing jobs and fortify the economy with billions of dollars in sales revenue.

- Aerospace companies lead the entire economy in maintaining a positive balance of trade. The industry posted a \$31B billion trade surplus in 2004 even as the nation's merchandise import-export deficit grew to a record \$652B.
- The aerospace industry exports 33 percent of its total product and during some economic quarters, nearly 70 percent of civil aircraft and components. Global markets, therefore, play a central role in supporting the industry's 623,000 U.S. production jobs.
- American aerospace workers generally earn between 12 and 20 percent more than the average U.S. manufacturing wage.
- Aerospace employers accounted for one-sixth of the manufacturing jobs created in the United States last year.

American aerospace industries hold a favorable trade position against their largest global competitors in Europe.

- European Union customers buy 40 percent of all U.S. aerospace exports and six times more defense equipment from the U.S. than we do from them.
- U.S. industry sales to the EU exceeded \$23B in value (2004 data).

U.S. aerospace partnerships overseas support the technological and operational needs of the military in the war on terrorism.

- Our overseas partners provide a source for technology and integration solutions that are otherwise not available in the U.S.
- The U.S. defense trade relationship with Europe reduces program developmental risks and increases joint force interoperability, a key intelligence asset in the war against a terrorist enemy on several continents.