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GARCETTI**
President, Los Angeles City Council
COUNCIL DISTRICT 13



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CITY COUNCIL INITIATIVE HELPS EXPAND AEROPACE JOBS, REGIONAL ECONOMY TAKES OFF

**GARCETTI, GREUEL ET AL JOIN AIRBUS, OTHERS TO TOUT EXPANSION OF L.A.'S SECTOR: GOOD JOBS,
LOCAL SPENDING**

Hi-res shop floor photos available

Los Angeles City Council President joined City of Commerce Mayor Nancy Ramos, Los Angeles City Councilmember Wendy Greuel, and business and labor representatives on the factory floor of Monogram Aerospace Fasteners to tout the good jobs and economic benefits of the still-critical aerospace manufacturing industry in Southern California.

The local officials were joined by representatives of Airbus International, makers of the new super-jumbo A380 airplane. Even before the first A380s pull up to the gates of Los Angeles International Airport in 2007, Airbus is boosting its local role. A local program initiated by Los Angeles Council President Eric Garcetti with Councilmember Greig Smith will introduce more than 200 potential suppliers to Airbus. The humming Monogram shop floor, alive with high-tech robotics and high-wage jobs, perfectly captures the new face of L.A. Aerospace.

“Just as the workers in this factory assemble critical parts of immense machines, aerospace jobs are a vital component of our regional economy,” said Council President Eric Garcetti. “High-skill and high-wage, these jobs present a challenge to us as policymakers to develop the skills in our workforce to take advantage of them. Our economy’s strength is in its diversity. It feels like a long way from this factory floor to cruising altitude, but the view from on high shows us that these are the jobs we need to train for and recruit.”

"The aviation industry plays a significant role in our region's economy and I commend Airbus for using local vendors in the construction of their new world-class airplanes," said Councilwoman Janice Hahn, who chairs the City Council's Trade, Commerce and Trade Committee. "Our challenge is to prepare LAX for the arrival of the new A380 next year."

Los Angeles City Council President Pro Tem Wendy Greuel also joined the event, speaking personally of her family’s experience in the manufacturing and construction sectors and the importance of aerospace to the region’s economy.

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“The aerospace industry is as vital to Los Angeles as our sunny skies—in fact, that’s key to how we became an aerospace hub in the first place,” said Ron Gastelum, executive vice president of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. “Today, it’s our highly skilled workforce, which makes up a vibrant, multibillion dollar sector of the regional economy, not only building jets and operating missile defense systems, but also manufacturing and supplying highly sophisticated aerospace parts to global companies such as Airbus.”

“Airbus has about 100 suppliers in the Los Angeles area,” said Allan McArtor, Chairman of Airbus North America. “We support thousands of jobs in the region. Airbus is proud to be here today to support the City Council’s initiative to bring aerospace jobs to the area.”

“Aerospace is truly a global industry, and Monogram participates in it,” said Jeff Henry, President of Monogram Aerospace Fasteners. “Roughly half of our business last year was to customers outside the U.S., and Airbus was the largest portion of that activity. Airbus has become our largest customer over the last three years. Monogram has 150 union employees here, earning an average of \$19.00 per hour (\$30.00 with benefits). About 40 of these men and women are employed because Airbus has established its supply chain right here.”

“The United Auto Workers union represents more than 140 employees at Monogram, part of a successful team,” said Fred Freuh, President of UAW Local 509. “We hope to see it grow and thrive and branch out over time.”

FACTS ABOUT AEROSPACE, AIRBUS AND MONOGRAM

- Aerospace is one of Southern California’s top manufacturing sectors, with 40,000 high-paying jobs.
- Average annual wage in 1990 was \$41,481 and rose to \$75,124 in 2004, representing an 80% increase in actual dollars and a 25% increase in inflation-adjusted dollars
- Airbus buys more from the U.S. than from any other country in the world. Airbus paid U.S. companies \$8.5 billion in 2005, which represented 46 percent of Airbus’ entire procurement budget related to aircraft manufacturing. More than \$65 billion worth of business for U.S. suppliers has been generated by Airbus since 1990. The employment impact of this spending is estimated to support over 170,000 high quality-manufacturing jobs in the United States
- In Los Angeles County, Airbus estimates its investment at \$600 million for the year 2005. Its suppliers have at minimum 100 people.
- The first A380 superjumbo will arrive at LAX in 2007 at Qantas Airlines
- Monogram Fasteners employs 210 people, 40 of whom via the Airbus contract. Last year out of \$44M in revenues, \$10M came from Airbus.

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