

Aerospace training consortium gets \$20M federal grant

Air Washington, a consortium of community and technical colleges and aerospace training organizations across the state, on Friday detailed how a \$20 million federal grant will be spent to promote aerospace workforce training in Washington.

U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell attended a West Seattle press conference that laid out plans to use the funds to develop a common curriculum across the colleges for all aerospace and advanced manufacturing courses.

And a state aerospace training organization backed by both industry and labor unions, the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee, plans to introduce European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) certification in addition to Federal Aviation Administration certification for airplane maintenance technicians.

"This critical investment will help keep Washington State at the forefront of the 21st century commercial aviation industry," Cantwell said.



Pictured from left to right: **Linda Nguyen**, Tacoma-Pierce County Workforce Development Council, **Mark Mattke**, Spokane Area Workforce Development Council, **Sue Ambler**, Snohomish County Workforce Development Council, **U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell**, **Alex Kosmides**, Northwest Workforce Council, **Marlena Sessions**, Workforce Development Council of Seattle – King County