



Boeing photograph

## High-speed tunnel tests

A team led by Boeing recently completed 1,300 hours of high-speed wind-tunnel testing of the Navy's Multi-mission Maritime Aircraft, which was recently given the designation P-8A. The three-month program concluded a full week ahead of schedule on March 18. The team conducted the tests at the NASA Ames Research Center at Moffet Field, Calif., using a 6.2 percent scale model in the 11-foot transonic wind

tunnel. An estimated 4,000 hours of wind-tunnel time will be logged in developing the P-8A. Designers used tools such as computational fluid dynamics to refine designs before testing to eliminate a substantial amount of tunnel time required to develop earlier designs. In addition, the 737-800 commercial airframe, currently in service with airlines around the world, has already undergone flight-testing.