

June 12, 2009

STATEMENT: Michael Rinn, Boeing vice president and ABL program director:

This is the first time in history anyone has actively tracked a boosting missile with a laser while closing atmospheric compensation loops. This was done at significant ranges and for many times longer than would be required to kill the missile had the high-energy laser been used.

Additional missile engagements will fine-tune the pointing accuracy and performance of the system. This significant test is a major step toward conducting this year's missile-intercept test, which will demonstrate the unprecedented speed, mobility, precision and lethality that ABL could provide to America's warfighters.

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