

MOBILE - Congressman Jo Bonner, R-Alabama, today welcomed EADS North America's long-awaited bid for the U.S. Air Force KC-X tanker one day ahead of the July 9, 2010 deadline.

"Today, EADS North America has once again stepped forward to offer the best tanker in the U.S. Air Force KC-X competition. The EADS KC-45 tanker is real, has flown and has been tested. The competitor's aircraft exists only on the drawing board," Congressman Bonner said.

"EADS, the people of South Alabama and the 48,000 workers nationwide who will benefit if EADS is awarded the contract, stand ready to compete in a fair and open competition. It's time for a head-to-head contest between the two aircraft based upon their capabilities and not political rhetoric.

"The American warfighter has waited far too long for a new tanker that can meet the demands of our 21st century military. The EADS KC-45 is ready to fly and ready to support our fighting men and women."