

Work resumes at Boeing following virus shutdown

By DAVID KOENIG and GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Boeing is restarting production this week of commercial airplanes in the Seattle area, putting about 27,000 people back to work after operations were halted because of the coronavirus.

The aerospace giant says it is taking extra precautions and instituted comprehensive procedures at all of its sites to fight the spread of COVID-19. The new virus-slowing measures will include the use of face masks and other protective equipment, hand-washing sites, staggered shift times and employee wellness checks.

Employees for the 737, 747, 767 and 777 airplanes were to return as early as Monday with most returning to work by Tuesday, officials said. Employees for the 787 program will return next Thursday and Friday.

Boeing's shutdown went into effect

March 25 after workers tested positive for the virus and a longtime inspector for the company died.

Boeing operates two commercial aviation production facilities in the Seattle area, one in Everett and another in Renton. Its Everett facility, north of Seattle, produces airplanes including 777s, 787s, 767s and 747s — along with the KC-46A military refueling and transport plane. Its plant in Renton, south of Seattle, produces the 737 line and military P-8s.

Boeing spokesman Bernard Choi said the workers will start by getting briefed about changes on the factory floor, where the company has put new social-distancing rules in place.

Choi said some airlines and cargo carriers are still taking delivery of new planes, and Boeing expects some operators to accelerate the retirement of older planes in place of newer, more fuel-efficient ones during the pandemic.

Watch out for scammers

Dear Annie: As a public service, please make your readers aware of the grandparents phone scam. My elderly parents were victims of this scam. Someone called them claiming to be a narcotics detective and told them their grandchild had been arrested and they needed to send bail money in order to have her released from jail.

He said they must not discuss this with anyone, even the family. They put a girl on the phone claiming to be their grandchild. She was crying hysterically in order to disguise her voice. She begged them not to tell her parents or anyone else. My parents were given specific directions on getting the money, how to pack it and send it. The scammer requested \$22,000 in cash in \$100 bills. He said time was of the essence and if they didn't follow his directions or if they told anyone, their grandchild could be facing a long jail sentence.

Unfortunately, my parents fell for this scam and sent \$22,000 in cash to a residential address in Florida. I am shocked that my parents fell for this scam, as there were so many red flags. My parents may be elderly, but they are both mentally sharp. These scammers are pros and have an answer for everything.

They prey on the grandparent's love and

concern for their grandchild. My dad was told he would receive a certified check in the mail reimbursing him all of the money after their grandchild was released from jail. He even

followed up with them on where the package was in transit, calling them several times over a two-day period, always reminding them that they must not discuss this with anyone.

I have reported this matter to the FTC and the FBI, but I am aware that my parent's money is gone forever. I just want to get this information out to the elderly and also to their friends and family. I do not want to see another person scammed and lose their money to these evil people. You

may think your parents would never fall for something this devious, but I thought that, too.

My parents are so embarrassed and ashamed that they fell for this scam. I'm sad that they didn't contact someone for advice, but he was just so convincing. — *Sad Daughter*

Dear Sad Daughter: I am so sorry that your parents had to go through that. Shame on whoever stole from them — and probably many other desperate, loving grandparents. Thank you for alerting others to the problem. I'm hoping that your letter helps save others.

DEAR ANNIE



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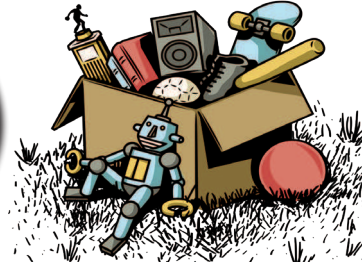
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