



VOL. 2012, ISSUE 2

DISTRIBUTION *In Review*

**DLA DISTRIBUTION'S
SUPPORT TO MARINE
CUSTOMERS**



DLA DISTRIBUTION *In Review*

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Cover photo courtesy of United States Marine Corps



COMMON PURPOSE: UNITY OF EFFORT, UNITY OF THOUGHT

AN UPDATE FROM THE DLA DISTRIBUTION COMMANDER



Recently I held a town hall at DLA Distribution headquarters, and I wanted to inform our entire workforce on the discussion we had that day, which included updates on the organization's culture, 2011 accomplishments, and 2012 initiatives.

After the 2010 culture survey, we received back 455 comments – and I read every single one. Many comments reflected a desire to understand the strategic direction of the organization.

In an attempt to clarify the strategic direction, we developed the Operational Plan with four goals, including Improved Performance, Human Capital Strategy, Distribution Network Optimization, and Customer and Stakeholder Engagement.

Since the inception of the 2011 Operational Plan, we have seen performance go from 66 percent at or above standard to 87 percent at or above standard. This shows we are moving in the right direction.

When I first came on board, I noticed a correlation between performance and culture. The high-performing organizations also had high-performing cultures. After the recent performance improvements, I am confident that the trend will continue.

When I recently visited our Norfolk distribution center, Capt. James Watts, the commander there, walked into a room and shouted “We Are!” and the entire workforce

shouted back “DLA.” It's clear that the employees are excited and engaged there, as well as at several other of our distribution centers I've visited recently.

It all goes back to “Unity of Purpose.” If we sing off the same sheet of music, culture will follow. I think we have taken your input and acted on it.

We also completed several important accomplishments in 2011 in support of the Operational Plan. Under the Performance goal, accomplishments other than the significant increase in operational performance included recognition in contract quality and oversight, exceeding four of five small business goals, the San Joaquin, Calif., distribution center achieving Voluntary Protection Program star status, and completing security compliance reviews.

Under the Human Capital Strategy goal, the Joint Reserve Forces Center of Excellence was established, several employees successfully completed the Executive Leadership Development Program, and Equal Employment Opportunity complaints were reduced.

In the area of Distribution Network Optimization, the Hazardous Material Center of Excellence began, the plan to integrate the Map Support Offices into the organization began, and the Infrastructure Optimization Plan was developed.

The fourth goal, Customer and Stakeholder

Engagement, saw the completion of the Kuwait contractor transition, the establishment of a distribution center in Afghanistan, the establishment of a Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point in Deh Dadi II, successful support to Libya, successful support during Operation Tomodachi, the creation of a more robust Contingency Operations Plan, a new Integrated Distribution Strategy, and a new Medical Logistics Efficiencies plan.

There is no fluff in these accomplishments. This is the type of synergy we are building across the enterprise. What you do every day is paying dividends.

In 2012, as the cost of distribution continues to escalate, we are thinking about how to reduce the cost of doing business, which includes optimizing the infrastructure, engaging the warfighter, and continuing to improve performance.

The standardization of work processes continues to be important, in order to reduce performance variability and to enhance modeling of the workforce. With a focus on cost, improving efficiency and effectiveness will assure the organization moves forward.

I want to thank each of you for the outstanding work you completed in 2011, and I look forward to your continued success in 2012.

DLA DISTRIBUTION IN REVIEW

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DLA Distribution employees help finish money-saving mission

By Paul VanHoesen, DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va.

When the USNS SACAGAWEA (T-AKE 2) arrived in Defense Logistics Agency Distribution Norfolk, Va., late last month for an offload of general cargo following an overseas deployment, distribution center employees were also offloading thousands of dollars in customer savings.

The SACAGAWEA had returned from deployment from the 5th Fleet, or Arabian Sea area, where it dispensed ammunition, fuel, and sustainment freight to Navy

units underway in the region. As it departed Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates, its 5th Fleet base of operations, SACAGAWEA picked up an additional load containing over 340 pallets of TP3, or low-priority, sustainment freight destined for locations within the Continental United States- an unusual event.

Only ocean transportation methods are authorized for transport of TP3 freight. Typically, TP3 freight is stuffed into a 40-foot commercial seavan and offered to commercial ocean carriers for a 45-day transit, with an associated cost of

approximately \$9,000 per container.

Thus, SACAGAWEA's transit back to CONUS presented a unique opportunity.

As a military ship, SACAGAWEA does not need to charge a fee for transporting Government-owned freight, even freight of the lowest priority. Additionally, the transit time takes only 15 days.

Considering the number of commercial seavan containers that would routinely be needed for this mission, loading the SACAGAWEA avoided approximately \$100,000 in transportation costs.



DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va., employees offload the USNS SACAGAWEA.

Upon its arrival in the U.S., DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va., was charged with offloading the pallets from the ship, transporting them to a staging area, assisting Navy personnel in identifying the freight and then organizing the freight by consignee, and arranging follow-on transportation to destinations across CONUS.

Leading the DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va., efforts were the Ships Operations crew, responsible for craning the pallets off the ship and the pier at Naval Station Norfolk. Utilizing dual-crane operations and a skid that holds six pallets per swing-of-the-crane, the ship operations

crew completed the offload of over 340 pallets in five hours.

Workers also loaded flatbed trucks, supplied and manned by DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va.'s Transportation division. The trucks operated in a round-robin fashion with one truck loading, one discharging, and two transiting between pier and discharge site. This operation moved freight quickly and out of the light rain that enveloped the site during the entire operation.

Staging the pallets, plus assisting with identifying and organizing the freight, was a team composed of distribution center Receipt, Storage, and Material Processing Center personnel. The personnel in these branches are dedicated to receiving, sorting, storing, issuing and delivering material for all the Navy ships and DoD activities in the Hampton Roads region on a daily basis.

“This operation was a full team effort by the professionals of DLA Distribution Norfolk, Virginia. With tight logistics schedules and austere budgets, our organization was proud to participate in an operation that reduced logistics response time while simultaneously reducing transportation costs,” said Navy Capt. James Watts, DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va., commander. “Once again, a DLA team proved they were ready and responsive to helping the naval warfighter.”



DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va., employee Randolph Knight unloads a pallet from a flatbed on its way into the warehouse.



SACAGAWEA offload complete, freight sits ready for identification and follow-on movement at DLA Distribution Norfolk, Va.



MobiTag: a new way to connect to DLA Distribution

By Terra Dietz, DLA Distribution Public Affairs

Microsoft Tag, a free mobile application, enables Defense Logistics Agency Distribution's smart phone users to access the external website more conveniently.

Microsoft's unique two-dimensional barcodes or 'Tags' can be scanned with smart phones to access the associated site without searching the internet or typing in the website address.

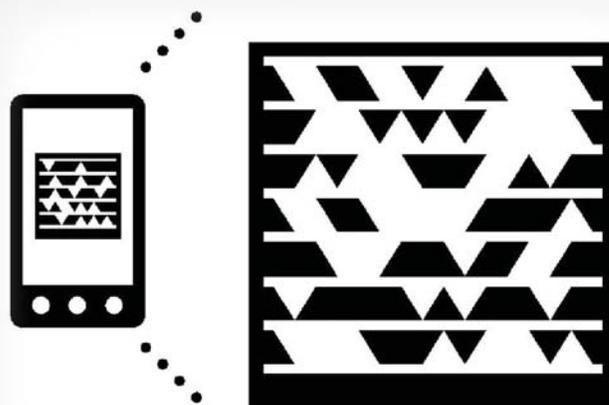
By visiting <http://gettag.mobi>, the free mobile application can be downloaded onto a smart phone which will enable users to scan Microsoft Tags. The Tag for DLA Distribution (pictured) can be found on future publications.

"We think it is a good way to provide our audience with a source of additional information in a direct and efficient manner," said Deborah Parker, chief, Outreach, Plans and Analysis, DLA Strategic Communications.

"Technology, such as smart phones apps, is allowing us to broaden our communication efforts," said Stacy Umstead, DLA Distribution public affairs officer. "With a scan of this app, our employees, customers and stakeholders will have immediate access to the DLA Distribution website."

Tags can be found in magazines, on business cards, event cereal boxes. Once Tags are created for a website they can be tracked by its originator for marketing purposes.

With some phones, the user aims the camera at the tag and the Tag app automatically recognizes and scans the barcode. On other phones, the camera has to be focused on the tag and clicked. The Tag application requires internet connection and standard data charges will apply.



**Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>**

Yokosuka hosts annual Forklift Rodeo and Safety Rally, promotes safety

By Jessica Roman, DLA Distribution Public Affairs

Defense Logistics Agency Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, once again hosted their annual Forklift Rodeo. Employees, along with participating partner commands, came together for the event to allow forklift operators the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in several aspects of safe and skillful forklift operation. A new addition to this year's event, the Safety Rally, allowed employees to participate in interactive hazardous situation demonstrations.

The Forklift Rodeo, with seven teams competing from five commands, focused on clean, friendly competition, and safe driving. Navy Munitions Command Taura was awarded first place in the competition, second place went to DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, and Fleet Logistics Center Yokosuka Industrial Support Department came in third place.

The Safety Rally had five separate safety stations where employees were provided tools to increase or remind them of safety awareness both at work and at home. The hazardous simulations included a smoke-filled room, a fire-in-progress, and an earthquake simulator, which demonstrated an 8.0 magnitude earthquake.

"In an 8.0 earthquake, you won't be able to move, and the trainers really drove that home," said Navy

Cmdr. Eric Bach, DLA Distribution Yokosuka commander. "The violence of the situation was really overwhelming."

Command U.S. Naval Forces Japan's Fire Department provided the simulator to show the dangerous realities of earthquakes in Japan. The country experienced a 9.0 magnitude earthquake earlier this year, and many of the employees present for the Safety Rally helped support operations following the disaster.

"I hope that this event prompts some external discussion, maybe back with the family at home,

on how to formulate a solid plan, should another earthquake happen," said Bach.

All the simulations strove to educate employees on proper preparation and what initial and follow-on steps to take in the event of a real emergency.

"This event was executed precisely as I had imagined it would be - that rarely happens," said Bach. "I hope this will become a new tradition for us and continue for many years into the future."



Robert Burt, security officer, and Guy Sanchez, deputy of Operations, participate in the Earthquake Simulator as part of the Safety Rally.



DLA Distribution's 26th distribution center welcomes new commander

By Emily Tsambiras, DLA Distribution Public Affairs

Army Lt. Col. Troy L.J. Brown II assumed command of DLA Distribution Kandahar, Afghanistan, in a ceremony Jan. 11.

Brown is only the third to command the distribution center. The organization was officially established on January 1, 2011 for the purpose of providing critical in-theater support to the Nation's troops.

A result of the first ever Request for Forces issued by the Secretary of Defense to DLA, DLA Distribution's expeditionary team deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in early July 2010 with a goal of maintaining forward-positioned stock and providing multi-modal distribution services to U.S. Forces within Afghanistan via DLA Distribution expeditionary's modular, scalable, deployable unit.

Today, the organization stocks approximately 1,800 National Stock Numbers valued at over \$31 million. Stock is comprised of Class II clothing and individual supplies, Class III petroleum, Class IV construction materiel and Class IX repair parts.

Brown, already a member of the DLA Distribution team, most recently worked within DLA Distribution Process and Planning on the Stock Readiness team.

Brown received his commission as a Second Lieutenant from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina in 1986.

Brown served on active duty from June 1986 to February 1997. During his tenure at Fort Stewart, Ga., his

positions included: platoon leader, company executive officer, and battalion support platoon leader with the 3rd Battalion 15th Infantry, 24th Infantry Division. After attending the Advance Course at Fort Benning, Ga., Brown served as the battalion logistics officer (S-4) with 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea. Then he served as battalion operations officer-air (S-3 Air), E Company commander, and Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander with 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. His final assignment during this period was mentoring a National Guard Battalion in South Carolina as an advisor.

After leaving active duty, Brown served in the Individual Ready Reserves. He was called to Active Duty in October 2004 and mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from October 2004 to January 2006. There he served as a strategic planner on the Multi-National Forces- Iraq STRAT OPS staff and as an embedded Advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Interior (police). Brown also assisted in planning, writing, and executing the security plan for the first three Iraqi National elections and the Transition Team plan which brought US advisors to mentor the Iraqi Army and Police.

In February 2009, Brown deployed to Taji, Iraq, to advise the Iraqi Army on setting up the Taji National Supply Depot. As the DLA team deputy, he was instrumental in assisting in setting up the Iraqi Army's class IX depot and advising his Iraqi Army counterpart in distribution best practices. While deployed in Iraq he was re-missioned to Afghanistan to participate in a logistical assessment of capabilities the Afghanistan



Army's national depots. Upon return to the Continental United States, Brown continued to serve in DLA Distribution as the DLA Distribution Mine Resistant, Ambush Protected vehicle lead until June 2010.

Brown holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from The Citadel. His military education includes: Senior Transportation Officer Course, Theater Logistics course, DLA Distribution Management course, Command and General Staff College, Infantry Officer's Advance Course, Infantry Officer's Basic course, and Airborne School.

Brown's decorations include: Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaves, Army Achievement Medal with three oak leaves, Iraq Campaign medal with two campaign stars, National Defense Service medal with star, Global War on Terrorism Service medal, Korean Defense service medal, Humanitarian Service medal, Army Service ribbon, Overseas ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve medal with "M" device, Parachutist badge, and Expert Infantryman badge.

DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., opens new distribution training lab

By Annette Silva, DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., Public Affairs

DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., recently unveiled a new training facility, with both classroom and hands-on training environments to support local training and the Distribution Operations Training program. The training lab at the distribution center came to fruition when the Performance Excellence team benchmarked with sister distribution center, DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., and built upon some of the concepts observed at their lab.

After several months of planning, the concept of the Distribution Training Lab has become a reality. In concert with DLA Distribution training guidelines and the standardized Distribution Operations Training program, the lab will provide DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., employees an opportunity to apply the concepts learned in the classroom before going back to their “live” environment.

The organization’s training lab is located in a former administrative storage space near the two largest classrooms. There are 159 storage locations, receipt and pack work stations, mobile Distribution Standard System carts, and radio frequency hand-held scanners used to simulate the warehouse environment and how to process transactions.

“The concept of the lab is a miniature warehouse that contains both bin and bulk materiel,” said Sharri Wise, Performance Excellence Group performance improvement specialist. “It gives us the opportunity to do real-life training in a safe environment, where mistakes cannot negatively impact our mission or the warfighter.”

The training segments include receiving, stowing, selection, packing, and outloading. There will also be capability in the lab to demonstrate unique requirements for foreign military sales and preservation, packing and marking.

“The DLA Distribution San Joaquin, California, Training Lab is aligned with the DLA strategic plan goal of Workforce Development. Our employees are excited about the new lab. Those who have gone through the process have provided us with more ideas and positive feedback. Our goal is to share what we learn with the training team and the enterprise. We believe this will be a great addition to our training toolbox,” said Kathy Brown, Performance Excellence Group chief.



The new training lab at DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., contains 159 storage locations, receipt and pack work stations, mobile Distribution Standard System carts and radio frequency hand-held guns used to simulate the warehouse environment and how to process transactions.



A LOOK AT THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Role: Amphibious and expeditionary warfare

Size: 200,827 active (as of June 2011)

40,000 reserve (as of 2010)

Part of: Department of the Navy (since 1834)

Motto: Semper Fidelis

Mascot: English Bulldog

The United States Marine Corps is a branch of the United States Armed Forces responsible for providing power projection from the sea, using the mobility of the United States Navy to deliver combined-arms task forces rapidly. In the civilian leadership structure of the United States military, the Marine Corps is a component of the United States Department of the Navy, often working closely with U.S. naval forces for training, transportation, and logistic purposes; however, in the military leadership structure the Marine Corps is a separate branch. It is the smallest of the United States' armed forces in the Department of Defense.

Origins

The United States Marine Corps traces its institutional roots to the Continental Marines of the American Revolutionary War, formed by Captain Samuel

Nicholas by a resolution of the Second Continental Congress on 10 November 1775, to raise two battalions of Marines. That date is regarded and celebrated as the date of the Marine Corps' "birthday." At the end of the American Revolution, both the Continental Navy and Continental Marines were disbanded in April 1783. The institution itself was not resurrected until July 11, 1798. At that time, in preparation for the Quasi-War with France, Congress created the United States Marine Corps. Marines had been enlisted by the War Department as early as August 1797 for service in the new-build frigates authorized by the Congressional Act "to provide a Naval Armament" of March 18, 1794, which specified the numbers of Marines to be recruited for each frigate.

Mission

The USMC serves as an expeditionary force-in-readiness.

As outlined in 10 U.S.C. § 5063 and as originally introduced under the National Security Act of 1947, it has three primary areas of responsibility:

- The seizure or defense of advanced naval bases and other land operations to support naval campaigns;
- The development of tactics, technique, and equipment used by amphibious landing forces in coordination with the Army and Air Force;
- Such other duties as the President may direct.

Organization

The Department of the Navy, led by the Secretary of the Navy, is the Federal Government Agency which both the Marine Corps and the Navy are organized within. The most senior Marine officer is the Commandant of the Marine Corps, responsible to the Secretary of the Navy for organizing, recruiting, training, and equipping the Marine Corps so that its forces are ready for deployment under the operational command of the Combatant Commanders. The Marine Corps is organized into four principal subdivisions: Headquarters Marine Corps, or HQMC, the Operating Forces, the Supporting Establishment, and the Marine Forces Reserve, or USMCR.



The Operating Forces are further subdivided into three categories: Marine Corps Forces, or MARFOR, assigned to unified commands, Marine Corps Security Forces guarding high-risk naval installations, and Marine Corps Security Guard detachments at American embassies. Under the "Forces for Unified Commands" memo, in accordance with the Unified Command Plan approved by the President, Marine Corps Forces are assigned to each of the Combatant Commands at the discretion of the Secretary of Defense.

Since 1991, the Marine Corps has maintained component headquarters at each of the regional unified combatant commands. Marine Corps Forces are further divided into Marine Forces Command, or MARFORCOM, and Marine Forces Pacific, or MARFORPAC, each headed by a Lieutenant General. MARFORCOM has operational control of the II Marine Expeditionary Force; MARFORPAC has operational control of the I Marine Expeditionary Force and III Marine Expeditionary Force.

The Supporting Establishment includes Marine Corps Combat Development Command, or MCCDC, Marine Corps Recruit Depots, Marine Corps Logistics Command, Marine bases and air stations, Recruiting Command, and the Marine Band.

The operating forces of the Marine Corps are currently organized into two Fleet Marine Forces:





DLA DISTRIBUTION SUPPORT TO THE MARINE CORPS

By Emily Tsambiras, DLA Distribution Public Affairs

“When our nation’s commitment to democracy is challenged, when our national interests are threatened, in times of international disaster, crisis or war, the Marine Corps is ready.” According to the Marine Corps website, and evidenced by its valiant history, the Marine Corps are the first ones ready, able to plan and mobilize for any ship-to-shore operation within a limited timeframe. Supporting those first to the fight, DLA Distribution keeps its United States Marine Corps customers ready to respond on the ground, in the air and by sea.

To ensure continuous and responsive support, DLA Distribution has three distribution centers collocated with major Marine customer bases in Barstow, Calif.; Cherry Point, N.C.; and Albany, Ga., fulfilling both on-base and off-base requirements for America’s force in readiness, processing more than 70,600 receipts and issues in Fiscal Year 2011 supporting its Marine customers worldwide.

DLA Distribution Barstow, Calif.

DLA Distribution Barstow, Calif., is located on one of two Marine Corps Logistics Bases

that are home to one of only two depot maintenance facilities in the Marine Corps.

Major commodities stored by the organization are electronic parts and components, replacement parts for military equipment, engines and transmissions and radar units.

Virtually all Marine Corps ground equipment can be repaired or modified at the Maintenance Center Barstow, or MCB. Workload ranges from heavy metal such as tanks and light armored vehicles to sophisticated electronics such as AN/TPS-59 Radar, AN/TPS-63 Radar, AN/YPQ-46 Firefinder, Avenger and Javelin Screening including thermal optics and night vision repair.

The distribution center averages between 1,000 and 1,500 Materiel Release Orders per month in support

of the MCB.

Additionally, the distribution center serves as the Central Receiving and Shipping Point for the MCB, averaging between 100 and 150 trucks per month in support of the center.

DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C.

DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., is a tenant command located onboard the Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C.

As a result of Defense Management Review Decision 902, the station’s Supply Directorate supply and distribution functions were transferred to the newly established DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., in 1992. The millennium closed with DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., supporting 2d Marine Air Wing squadrons as they participated



Photo by Matthew Balough, DLA Distribution Barstow, Calif.

in NATO air strikes in Kosovo and Serbia during Operation Allied Force, and flying support during Operation Northern Watch from Incirlik, Turkey.

The beginning of the 21st Century brought continued DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., support to exercises and operations in the United States and around the world. From 2000 to 2002, the distribution center supported the 2nd MAW Prowler squadrons deployed in support of Operation Southern Watch, Operation Northern Watch and UDP rotations to Japan; Harrier and helicopter squadrons deployed in support of the 22nd, 24th and 26th Marine Expeditionary Units; Hornet squadrons deployed aboard the USS Harry S. Truman with Carrier Wing 3; and MWSG-27 and MACG-28 deployed personnel in support of all exercises and operations in which 2d MAW flying squadrons participated.

In early 2001, DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., supported VMFA-312 and VMAQ-3 as they participated in a joint combined strike against Iraq. In 2002, VMA-542 and HMM-261 flew combat missions over Afghanistan and conducted humanitarian missions in Djibouti. The distribution center delivered the LITENING 2 targeting pod to the Marines of VMA-542 who were among the first to employ the system in combat. In 2003, the distribution center provided support as the 2d MAW deployed more than 7,700 Marines and Sailors in support of the Global War on Terrorism, operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and Joint Task Force Horn of Africa. More than 200 tactical combat aircraft flew in support of Global War on Terrorism operations, supporting combat and contingency operations around the globe, with more than 70 percent of the command and control, support group, and

aircraft deployed simultaneously. Since then, DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., has continuously provided support to forward areas of operation in the Middle East supporting the deployment of many thousands of Marines and hundreds of tactical combat aircraft.

A milestone was reached in 2007 when DLA-supported 2d MAW sent the first operational MV-22 Osprey squadron forward. The Osprey is the Marine Corps' replacement for the venerable CH-46 helicopter, with range and speed advantages that have shrunk the battle theater and provide better protection for ground troops being transported to the battlefield.

DLA Distribution Cherry Point, N.C., provides worldwide support for all of the Marine deployments, exercises and mobilizations, and provides rigging, loading, blocking and bracing, and transportation services for essential air and ground support equipment, weapons, ordnance and vehicles. The distribution center supplies all of the preservation and packaging, Hazardous Materiel packaging, central receiving, rigging operations, ordnance transportation certifying and transportation management office requirements to all Marine units in the local area.

DLA Distribution Albany, Ga.

DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., is the primary source of storage and distribution of secondary repair parts and expendables for the Marine Corps Logistics Command on Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga. The source of 82 percent of total receipts and issues in FY11, the distribution center provides the largest volume of DLA Distribution support to Marine customers than any of the organization's other 25 sites.

The distribution center also stocks a wide range of commonly ordered items by the military services and other Department of Defense customers. Items stored include meals ready-to-eat, clothing and textiles, construction materials, electrical supplies, electronic components and many more items. In addition to the basic receive, store and ship mission, other functions that are performed include preservation and packaging; stock readiness inspection; unit, kit and set assembly; and marking and reclassification of material.

DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., performs unique missions that include providing all transportation management functions for MCLB Albany, Ga., the home of Marine Corps Logistics Command and other tenant activities. To move the massive amounts of material required to sustain the Marine Corps, from one of only two maintenance centers of its kind in the world, requires an extensive amount of planning and equipment. This includes basic material handling equipment to a 150-ton crane lifting operation.

Additionally, since July 2009, DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., has continually supported the Mine-Resistant, Ambush-Protected, or MRAP, vehicle project. This independent suspension systems, or ISS, project is vital to the sustainment of this life-saving vehicle. More than 2,300 20-foot containers with the replacement ISS kits have been shipped.

Just as the nation's Marines remain faithful to the mission at hand, to each other, to the Corps and to country, DLA Distribution remains faithful and dedicated to providing effective and efficient distribution solutions, supporting to those on the front lines, whenever, wherever.



Three DLA Distribution employees and Employee Recognition Program

By Jessica Roman, DLA Distribution Public Affairs

Three DLA Distribution employees and three teams were honored at the 44th Annual Employee Recognition Program ceremony. The program seeks to recognize outstanding performers in all segments of the DLA workforce.

DLA Distribution employees recognized included: DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, Sasebo Detachment, winner of the Medium Team category; Pamela Circo-Webb, DLA Distribution Oklahoma City, Okla., winner of the Outstanding DLA Employee with a Disability category; Petty Officer 1st Class Noel Cruz, DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, winner of one of the Ten Outstanding DLA Personnel; Joe Perry, DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., winner of the DLA Leadership Award, Tier 4; DLA Distribution Acquisition Operations, Contract Quality Assurance and Post Award Team, winner of Excellence in Contract Administration; and DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., winner of Achievement in EEO by an Organization, Category 3.

DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, Sasebo Detachment, was recognized for their support during last year's massive earthquake, tsunami, and the Fukushima nuclear plant crisis in eastern Japan. During the crisis, the

Sasebo team became the Navy's logistics focal point for Operation Tomodachi and successfully met the challenges and 378 percent increase in workload head-on.

Pamela Circo-Webb, Outstanding DLA Employee with a Disability, serves as the Unit Emergency Management Representative Primary at Tinker Air Force Base for DLA Distribution Oklahoma City, Okla., oversees all reservists programs, several veterans' programs, the Army intern program, the Diversity Celebrations committee, champions culture changes in the workplace, and exhibits outstanding teamwork supporting her peers.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Noel Cruz was recognized for his contributions to process improvements in operations which resulted in outstanding service to customers and agencies including units supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, Tomodachi, and other units deployed across the western Pacific.

Joe Perry serves as the chief of the Operations Group at DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., which consists of more than 1,000 employees in receiving, warehousing, shipping, and consolidation and containerization divisions. Perry is a champion in continuous process improvement initiatives, and volunteered for a

six-month deployment as deputy commander, DLA Distribution Kandahar, Afghanistan.

The DLA Distribution Acquisition Operations team provides comprehensive acquisition services and is responsible for the preparation, implementation and oversight of contract quality assurance processes and procedures. The team aggressively ensures post award administers requirements are fulfilled and that contractors perform in accordance with all contract requirements, terms and conditions.

DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., was recognized for its achievements in EEO in demonstrating a commitment from leadership, proactive prevention of unlawful discrimination, and identifying and implementing efficiencies.

The first criterion was met through leadership's monthly celebration of special observances, as well as implementation of required quarterly EEO training for supervisors. The second was met through the creation of a standing panel for all selections contributing to identifiable changes in the work environment. Lastly, leadership demonstrated a commitment to encouraging and ensuring supervisors' and managers' participation in Alternative Dispute Resolution.

and three teams honored at DLA 44th Annual



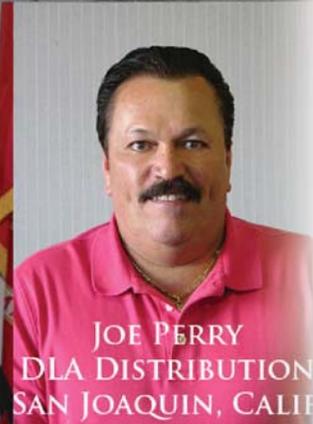
DLA DISTRIBUTION YOKOSUKA, JAPAN, DETACHMENT SASEBO



PAMELA CIRCO-WEBB
DLA DISTRIBUTION
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.



NAVY PETTY OFFICER
1ST CLASS NOEL CRUZ,
DLA DISTRIBUTION
YOKOSUKA JAPAN



JOE PERRY
DLA DISTRIBUTION
SAN JOAQUIN, CALIF



DLA DISTRIBUTION J7 ACQUISITION
OPERATIONS, CONTRACT QUALITY
ASSURANCE AND POST AWARD TEAM



DLA Distribution Sigonella



By Navy Cmdr. Jeffrey Schmidt, DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, commander

Established April 1, 2004, DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, has been steadily growing, continuously providing support to the Nation's warfighters and North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces in both European Command and African Command theaters.

Also known as the "Hub of the Mediterranean," the distribution center, located on the island of Sicily, distributes materiel throughout AFRICOM to locations including Djibouti, Ghana, South Africa, Morocco, Senegal, Gabon, as well as throughout EUCOM to a variety of destinations in various countries including Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria, and Estonia.

The distribution center's mission is to "Provide theater-specific distribution services in support of European and Africa Command's operations throughout the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, littoral Africa, and within the African continent by leveraging an

adaptive distribution network that delivers responsive, efficient and innovative warfighter-focused support."

This includes support to naval ships operating in the Sixth Fleet Area of Responsibility. This is done via a variety of methods including military airlift from the

airfield located on base at Sigonella; via support ships in Augusta Bay, south of Sigonella; or via other means including movement by commercial carrier to husbanding service providers located throughout the theatre.

Key to this support is getting the materiel where and when the customer needs it. As customers supported are frequently on the move, employees have to work closely with logistic partners, such as Fleet Logistics Center Sigonella and their Logistic Support Centers along with the Passenger Mail Cargo Coordinator, to accomplish the mission.

Because of their mobility and their mission, customers are sometimes subject to last minute schedule changes, forcing employees to remain flexible and adapt quickly to send materiel to meet the needs of the customer.

This requires the distribution center's customer

service personnel to remain in contact with logistics partners, and stand ready to work quickly with the distribution center's transportation and transshipment divisions to make these unexpected changes.

The challenge of having to work closely within the organization, as well as with the customer and other logistics partners to ensure the right items get to the right place on time is one of the great things about working in smaller, yet vital, distribution platforms. There is frequent customer interaction and one knows their actions have made a difference to the warfighter.

In addition to normal distribution operations of receiving, issuing, storage, packing, local delivery and transshipment, DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, also performs customs clearance duties and, currently, is the only authorized DLA stock point for Hazardous Material within the EUCOM AOR.

DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, accomplishes its important mission through a dedicated team of distribution professionals comprised of approximately local national, or LN, employees, U.S. Civil Service, or USCS, employees and military personnel located in Sigonella, Italy.

Additionally, the distribution



ella, Italy: a cultural experience

center is supported by a team of comprised of over 17 LNs with a USCS team lead located in Naples, Italy and another team of LNs with a USCS team lead located in Rota, Spain. These sites were transferred to DLA in July 2010 as part of the Navy Warehouse Transfer initiative. The Naples operation is a cross-dock operation and is located adjacent to the Naples International Airport with a commercial port just a few kilometers away. A similar capability exists in Rota where there is an airfield and port facility located on base a short distance from the facility. The distribution capabilities these sites

bring in these locations afford DLA Distribution the ability to provide the warfighter a more integrated distribution option throughout Europe, Africa and Asia.

All of these sites afford an aspect unique to working overseas and that is the ability to live in a different culture. Every weekend another fun and different cultural event happens in these locations. Whether it is a wine festival in Piedmonte Etneo, a fireworks competition in Aci Bonaccorsi, or even a Pistachio festival in Bronte which boasts an annual production of nearly 30,000 quintals of

pistachios (one percent of the total world production), there is always something new to experience. Setting the backdrop for this beautiful location is Europe's most active volcano, Mt. Etna, standing at 10,925 feet and growing!

Working for DLA Distribution at Sigonella, Naples or Rota, challenge and opportunity are a constant, and the ability to adapt can be very rewarding both professionally and personally. Come visit!



DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, is strategically located in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea.



Albany trains Army interns from prestigious Logistics Management Internship Program

By Tony Brooks, DLA Distribution Albany, Ga.

Since 2003, DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., has been hosting interns from the Army's prestigious Logistics Management Internship Program, including six interns in 2010 alone. Currently, the distribution center is hosting two interns to help develop future logistics managers for the Department of the Army.

At DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., the interns have an opportunity to receive training in receiving, warehousing, and packing. "The Introduction to Logistics course at Ft. Lee, Va., provided us the overview of the distribution operation, but the on-the-job experience here at DLA Distribution Albany is invaluable as a logistics management intern," said intern Tormarcla Tillmon. "We look forward to utilizing this knowledge and experience from these expert technicians in the future."

The interns spend six weeks training at the distribution center. Each intern's schedule is broken down by distribution function, and generally carries them from the receiving door all the way through the distribution process until the material is shipped and headed for the customer. Their on-the-job training culminates with a briefing of the distribution process

in Albany, produced and given by the interns, affording them an opportunity to exercise their public speaking skills.

Since DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., is collocated with the Marine Corps, one of the highlights for the interns is a tour of Marine Corps Logistics Command's Fleet Support Division and the maintenance center. This tour allows the interns the ability to see the direct support DLA provides to other services within the Department of Defense.

The Army's Logistics Management Internship Program is a two-year professional development program, consisting of formal classroom training and a series of rotational on-the-job training with Department of Defense agencies throughout the United States.

Training emphasizes transportation, supply,

maintenance, financial management, contract negotiations and leadership development. The program ensures the availability of well-trained and experienced employees equipped with the right skills to support the Army civilian work force of the future. Upon completion of the program, individuals are placed in positions throughout the world.



Army Logistics Management intern Andre Charles works in the DLA Distribution Albany, Ga., warehouse as part of his on-the-job training.

“Strategically Speaking”

**Andrew Simpson, supervisory distribution facilities specialist,
Distribution Division, DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa.**

Warfighter Support Enhancement

Our goal here at DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., has always, and will always be, providing the right item, in the right quantity, in the right condition and at the right price for our customers. We have a wealth of talented employees who understand how vital our role is to our customers. One of my goals each and every day as a supervisor is to remove all obstacles from an employee's path to ensure we get our customers the material that they need in a timely manner.

Stewardship excellence

Through our continuous process improve initiatives, we hope to reduce our foot print and make DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., the most cost efficient distribution center in the Department of Defense. As resources become tighter and tighter, we need to leverage our resources in order to move the organization forward.

Workforce development

Working for DLA's largest strategic platforms, you learn very quickly that our biggest and most important commodities are our employees. Our workforce development only enhances the capabilities of our organization going forward.

Performance

We have been focusing on improving our quality and removing any bottlenecks in our processes that contribute to our metrics. Currently, an important target is improving our denial rate. We are in the process of drilling-down and looking for any systemic problems, and conducting refresher training for our staff.

Our mission is to simply provide integrated distribution solutions in support of America's Armed Forces around the clock and around the world through effective receipt, storage, control and shipment of materiel. DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., takes pride in providing our customers the right product the same way we would like to receive it.

Andrew Simpson
Supervisory Distribution Facilities Specialist, Distribution Division,
DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa.





**WE ARE AMERICA'S
COMBAT LOGISTICS
SUPPORT AGENCY.
WE ARE DLA.**

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

DLA Distribution's commitment to culture

