

a second count is initiated. Some stock numbers valued at over \$5,000 are counted as many as three times to ensure accuracy. The final step for high-priced inventory involves in-depth research to balance the physical count with the books.

As of mid-January, just over 120,000 of the 750,000 stock numbers stored in 1.5 million locations were completed. Four of the 26 warehouses being wall-to-walled are completed.



DDJC Commander, COL Doug Serrano, USA, surrounded by inventory counters, cuts the ribbon in Warehouse 19, the first warehouse to have a completed wall-to-wall inventory, signifying a 100 percent accurate inventory that has been handed over to the warehouse supervisor. Also shown in front of the ribbon, from left are Gary Kahn, the Bin Division Chief; Joe Olega, the Warehouse Supervisor; and Elise Koke, Chief of the Inventory Division.

DDC Welcomes New Logistics Operations Interns

On January 24, 2005, the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Logistics Operations Directorate (J-3/J-4) welcomed six new employees hired through the DLA Corporate Intern Program. During the next two years each intern will receive considerable on-the-job training within Logistics Operations Directorate, as well as attend formal classroom training on DLA Supply Management and Physical Distribution.

"I chose the Intern Program here at DDC because I thought it would be a great business opportunity," said Shannon Hodgson, currently assigned to the Supply Management Division. "Being a recent college graduate, I did not have a lot of

business experience and wanted to get experience in more than one area of work. The Intern Program at DDC offered me this capability. I am excited to learn about all the different areas of J-3/J-4 in addition to the DLA course training we will receive."

"The program offers a lot," said Joseph Rutkowski, currently assigned to the Inventory Team. "First, the program offered a structured development path to enable us to learn the DLA/DDC systems, culture, and ways of doing business. Second, I believe the program will also help me establish a solid base of knowledge and competencies to allow me to further my career with the DDC once the program has been completed."

"I choose the DLA Corporate Intern Program because of my desire to have a career in the federal government," said Jose Abreu, currently assigned to the Reserve Affairs and Mobilization Office. "I consider myself fortunate to be working in a position that I like and for an institution that I have come to admire. Considering that my education is in business administration I knew it had to be an agency that was goal-oriented and focused on results. I always knew that I wanted to work in a place that possessed the highest professional caliber and work ethic. When I investigated DLA and DDC, I knew the program and this organization were the perfect match for me."

"I chose this intern program because it seemed to offer more real experience than other prospective employers," said Laura Fritz, currently working on the OCONUS team (depots outside the continental U.S.). "I also look forward to two years of training as a great way to familiarize myself with the entire organization. Not many employers are willing to invest this much into a recent college graduate."

During their second year, each employee will receive several months of field training by working in core operational areas at one of DDC's 26 distribution centers.

"Although I have only been at DDC for a few weeks now, I have already learned so much about DLA and DDC," said Hodgson.

"The people at DDC have made a great impression on me. Everyone has been very nice and willing to help which makes the transition much easier. My favorite event thus far was the tour of the Eastern Distribution Center located at DDSP (Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA). I was amazed at the size for one, but also with the organization of the workflow. Walking through the plant really puts the job we are doing into perspective. I am excited to know that I will have a part in the whole process."

"I am very pleased with the program," said Abreu. The DDC leadership team "is very supportive and provides us the tools to be successful. The guidance and dedication of the Program Coordinator, Mr. Michael Hasuga, has ensured a smooth transition into the organization. The program maintains an excellent balance between formal training and real hands-on experience. This combination of experience and training is the perfect recipe for success. Honestly, DDC has been all and more than I expected. The organizational culture and unity that DDC employees share is like no other that I have ever seen. People really care about what they do and recognize that their contributions make a difference."

Also accepting DDC internship positions were Shannon Lukins, currently assigned to the Transportation Team, and Alexander Ramirez, current assigned to the Customer Relationship Management Team.



New arrivals for the DDC Career Intern Program receive briefings on DDC's operations to make them familiar with the mission.