

DDC priority: Protecting employees and the environment

By Jessica Walter, DDC Command Affairs

“Make it a state of mind,” insisted Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Chief of Staff COL Perry Knight, USA, during his opening remarks at the Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health (ESOH) workshop Oct. 17.

“As we work to support the Warfighter, we must ensure that we have a system in place that protects our workforce and our environment, and that we integrate that system into our business and operations,” said DDC ESOH Manager Michael Dobbs.

During the four-day workshop, representatives from DDC’s 26 distribution centers around the world participated in discussions aimed at continuing the implementation of DDC’s Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Management System (ESOHMS).

The ESOHMS is an overarching management system that includes procedures for identifying DDC’s environmental, safety and occupational health goals and creating a plan of action to reach those goals across DDC’s global distribution network.

“DDC is committed to a world-class ESOH program, and it begins right here with you,” COL Knight told the group.

DDC Commander BG Lynn Collyar, USA, along with the Commander of each DDC component site, affirmed the organization’s commitment to protecting DDC’s employees and the environment by signing the DDC ESOHMS policy Aug. 24.

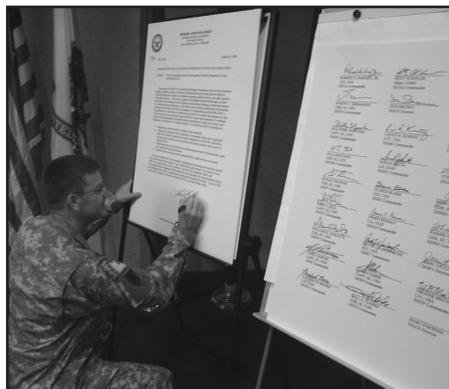
“Workplace injuries and environmental incidents are preventable if the risks are managed properly,” said BG Collyar.

According to Dobbs, conducting DDC’s business in a manner that reduces risks to the workforce and aims to reduce pollution improves DDC’s overall mission performance. “By

improving our performance, we improve the readiness of America’s Warfighters,” Dobbs added.



DDC Chief of Staff COL Perry Knight, USA, urges the audience to make protecting the environment and reducing workplace mishaps a “state of mind” at the DDC Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health (ESOH) workshop Oct.



DDC Commander BG Lynn Collyar, USA, endorses the DDC ESOHMS policy.

Redesign of DDC’s First Responder HAZMAT training reduces cost

By Jessica Walter, DDC Command Affairs

By replacing on-site training with DVDs, the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) has reduced the cost of providing First Responder Hazardous Material Awareness training to employees by more than \$100,000 a year.

According to DDC Safety Specialist Jim Wood, DDC will save more than money, but man hours as well. “The

DVD takes only 15 minutes to view compared to the two-and-a-half hours previously required.”

The switch was a result of collaboration between the DLA Enterprise Support – DDC Environmental Safety and Occupational Health Office, DDC Logistics Operations, and the DLA Training Center.

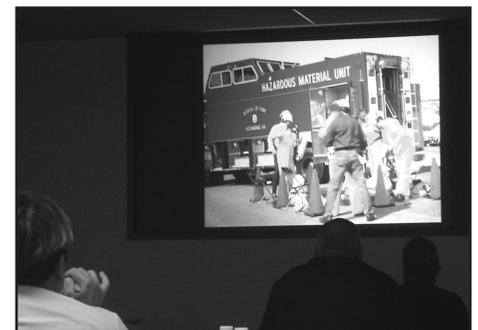
The new training DVD was unveiled in October during the DDC Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health (ESOH) workshop where attendees had favorable reviews.

“The content is good, concise,” said John Huber, Occupational Safety, Health and Security Manager at Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa. (DDTP).

“It requires less time out of the work area, and allows employees to spend more time on productivity,” said Margie Hodge who is responsible for the security, safety, environmental and radiation protection programs at Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga. (DDWG).

Thirty First Responder training DVDs were purchased earlier this year and will be distributed to DDC’s 26 distribution centers worldwide. According to Wood, about 4,200 employees require the training each year – that’s just over half of DDC’s entire workforce.

First Responder training is required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to prepare employees for taking the actions necessary in case they should find leaking or uncontrolled materials that might be hazardous.



The new 15-minute First Responder Hazardous Material Awareness training DVD saves DDC more than \$100,000 a year.