

## DDC's Transportation Planners: Round the clock transportation service

The Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Transportation Planning Office provides the full range of transportation planning, information and technical support that delivers effective, efficient and innovative services to combatant commands, military, and other agencies during peace and war. They are responsible for all air and surface clearances, container bookings, and monitoring carrier performance.

In addition, they oversee operations of DDC's transportation optimization tool, the Distribution Planning and Management System (DPMS), which improves cargo movement through the Defense Transportation System.

The Transportation Planning Team briefed the DDC staff at a recent Lunch and Learn on their mission and responsibilities.

The Transportation Planning Team's work allows vendors to contact one central location and get answers to any Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) transportation question. They plan and coordinate the most cost efficient and effective mode of transportation for the movement of DLA assets, inside or outside the continental U.S. (CONUS or OCONUS).

The DDC team provides transportation support not only to DDC shipments, but to all DLA field activities like Defense Supply Centers Columbus, Philadelphia, and Richmond.

"The DDC Transportation Planners have improved the quality of transportation by standardizing business practices and reducing customer wait time," said their Chief, Richard Hawkins.

The office is staffed at least six days a week but is ready to provide round the

clock support if mission demanded. The team is required to provide transportation support within 24 to 72 hours after the request. DDC's Transportation Planners are at 100 percent for all their metrics, Hawkins said.

"The team is cross-trained," Hawkins said, "with multifunctional capabilities providing flexibility for customer satisfaction and supporting surge operations."

Another vital mission that the office supports is DPMS, the Distribution Planning and Management System.

DPMS is a modern distribution planning and management system that enables DDC to better manage the movement of products from vendors and distribution centers to customers resulting in greater coordination, visibility and stock positioning.

DDC's Transportation Planners use DPMS and help vendors use DPMS to print military shipping labels. Printed with current addresses, the shipping labels also help reduce frustrated freight.

"The DDC team also performs as a sub-contractor to another DLA

## DDC Lunch & Learn tests employees' DDC knowledge



Who was DDC's first Commander? Deputy Commander? Name the Defense Distribution Center's (DDC) Strategic Distribution Platforms (SDPs) – present and future. Those were some of the questions at October's Lunch & Learn session hosted by the DDC Command Affairs Office.

In conjunction with DDC's 9th Anniversary, and the Defense Logistics Agency's 45th Anniversary, Command Affairs Officer Jackie Noble provided the DDC command brief to the attendees. The briefing highlighted the DLA Enterprise, DDC's history, its distribution network – past and present, current goals and initiatives, and, of course, DDC trivia!

DDC prizes were awarded to the lucky winners of each trivia question and a bonus prize was presented to the employee with the longest service in DLA.