

Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point - Europe opens

The TCSP-E is DDDE's newest operation to further improve DDC's distribution capabilities

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Oct. 2, 2006 marked a special occasion for the Defense Distribution Depot Europe (DDDE) as the distribution facility opened its newest operation, the Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point – Europe (TCSP-E).

Hosted by DDDE Commander, LTC Lance Koenig, USA, DDDE celebrated with a joint ribbon cutting ceremony. Presiding over the ceremony was Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Commander, BG Lynn A. Collyar, USA.

LTC Koenig opened the ceremony by welcoming the attendees and thanking all of the organizations who continually support DDDE and its mission and further committing DDDE's support to the customer, "We are honored that DDDE was chosen for this important mission. Our promise to the European Command (EUCOM) Warfighter is that we will carry out the break bulk distribution mission with the same professionalism and high standards that we have achieved while conducting DLA's distribution mission."

As part of the United States Army's transformation in Europe, the decision was made to reduce Army strength in Europe and focus on the core Army functions of warfighting. This plan included the divestiture of all non-core distribution functions to include the transfer of the Theater Distribution Center (TDC) mission which was operated by the 21st Theater Support Command (TSC). "We are following in the footsteps left by the 21st TSC's Joint Theater Distribution Center (JTDC), and they are some 'Shaquille O'Neal' sized shoes," said LTC Koenig.



Opening TCSP's operation, left to right: Reese, BG Lally, BG Fontaine, RDML Lyden, BG Thorpe, BG Collyar, and LTC Koenig.

A joint task force comprised of action officers from EUCOM, United States Transportation Command (TRANSCOM), United States Army Europe (USAEUR), United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE), the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), and DDC worked to determine the best course of action for the theater to conduct break bulk of cargo inbound to EUCOM units by either air or sealift. Their recommendation was to move this mission from the TDC to DDDE in Gernersheim, Germany.

"DDC and the 21st TSC reached a formal agreement on how to transfer this mission, and on August 14th, DDC was given the green light to proceed with the transition. DDC aggressively moved out so that the transition would be invisible to the customers," said BG Collyar.

On August 21st, DDDE assumed responsibility for break bulk surface and ocean containers, and on September 5th, Commercial Air Line of Communication (COMALOC) pallets were transferred. By September 18th, DDDE began receiving military

ALOC pallets. "On October 23rd, the transition will be complete and the TCSP fully operational," said LTC Koenig.

The TCSP will act as the primary conduit for sustainment material entering the European theater. The TCSP will rapidly consolidate and segregate shipments from multiple sources and prepare for onward shipment directly to the customer.

Participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony were Senior Staff Logistician in theater and the first Naval Officer to hold the position of Director of Logistics and Security Assistance, J4, Headquarters, United States Army European Command, Rear Admiral Mike Lyden, SC, USN; Deputy Chief of Staff, G4, United States Europe and Seventh Army, BG Yves J. Fontaine, USA; Deputy Commander, 21st Theater Support Command, BG Phillip Thorpe, USA; current Commander, 3rd Corps Support Command and former DDC Commander, BG Mike Lally, USA; and Hilliard Reese, Acting Chief for DDDE's TCSP.