

Deputy commander highlights DLA and DDC mission and logistics capabilities

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

Senior Executive Service member, William H. Budden, deputy commander for the Defense Distribution Center, or DDC, was on site at the United States Air Force Institute of Technology, or AFIT, Dayton, Ohio Sep. 21 to provide Senior Distribution Executive Development Seminar attendees an overview of the Defense Logistics Agency's mission and highlight DDC's support to the Warfighter.

Class attendees, senior logisticians from throughout the military services, learned first-hand DLA's mission of supplying critical resources to the nation's military services and civilian agencies. The briefing included DLA's focus areas, organizational alignment and scope of support. "DLA is the Department of Defense's supply chain manager for eight supply chains," said Budden, "We're an integral part of the end-to-end supply chain and work very closely with the military services before and during the acquisition process to ensure their requirements are being met."

Budden continued, "DLA is reaching all the way back into industry and partnering with them and leaning all the way forward to the frontline with the Warfighter or storeroom of a ship or skin of an aircraft -- linking demand with supply."

As DDC's deputy commander for 25 distribution centers worldwide, Budden further explained DLA's lead center for distribution's role in supporting the Warfighter. "DDC receives, stores and issues supplies as well as provides tailored logistics services to increase Warfighter readiness," said Budden.

During his session with the senior logisticians, Budden further highlighted DDC's engagement strategies with the combatant commands including aligning at the component level, implementing theater first sourcing logic and expanding customer base by leveraging existing and potential distribution channels.

Budden's session with the senior logisticians was very well received. "The students enjoyed hearing a senior leader perspective about DLA and the DDC," said United States Air Force Maj. Larry Stetz, course director for the seminar. "They exercised their academic freedom to ask challenging questions, which Mr. Budden answered candidly and in stride. They left with a better understanding of the work DLA does and the challenges ahead."

DDC has participated in the AFIT's logistics curriculum for the last five years.

The AFIT Senior Distribution Executive Development Seminar provides senior

distribution executives with the latest developments in national policies, management techniques, and the new technologies affecting the transportation and physical distribution disciplines. The seminar emphasizes national policies and their impact on Air Force distribution activities current theories and techniques regarding human and physical resources management state-of-the-art developments in the transportation field and new productivity improvement initiatives.

In addition, the seminar increases student's understanding of both military and commercial physical distribution systems and provides insight into the motivation and strategies employed by the commercial distribution industry. Teaching methods include discussions, guest lectures, and onsite tours of transportation and distribution facilities.



William H. Budden, Senior Executive Service, provides an overview to Senior Distribution Executive Development Seminar attendees.