



# DDDE's dedicated truck program optimizes transportation; decreases wait time for

## European command customers

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The Defense Distribution Center's dedicated truck program is just one of the tailored logistics services DDC provides. At the Defense Distribution Depot Europe, in Germersheim, Germany, this robust, synchronized transportation program gives customers confidence knowing shipments will arrive when needed.

Dedicated trucks carrying customer orders depart DDDE as many times as seven days a week en route to locations throughout Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Belgium, Spain, Turkey, Kosovo, Romania, Luxemburg and Hungary.

"When DDDE established the dedicated truck schedule we considered customer operational constraints such as operating hours, local holidays and deployments," said United States Army Lt. Col. Steve Keller, DDDE commander. "We have customers that receive daily shipments, some with two or three per week and other customers that only receive one shipment per week, all directed by the volume of freight created either from incoming in containers or on air pallets or from customer orders from DDDE stocks. These dedicated trucks ensure our customers are getting the sustainment materials on the next available shipment departing DDDE."

An example of this program is when an air shipment arriving in Ramstein, Germany at 1900 departs Ramstein via truck at 2130 en route to DDDE. The truck arrives at midnight where DDDE Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point, or TCSP, employees offload the truck, break down the pallets and segregate the cargo for further shipment in theatre.

Once the shipment has been segregated, TCSP employees move the materiel to dedicated customer shipping lanes. The materiel is then loaded onto dedicated trucks departing that day. "In most cases customers receive cargo the same day it departs DDDE," said Keller. "Less than 24 hours after it arrives via air in theatre.

Additionally, DDDE in concert with the customer has the capability to arrange backhauls from customer locations to DDDE. "The backhaul allows the customer to load material coming back to the 'hub', or the TCSP, on the same dedicated truck," said Keller. "Once this materiel arrives back at the TCSP, employees off-load, consolidate and prepare for onward movement to customers.

Over 150 trucks depart DDDE weekly.

DDDE is DDC's largest distribution facility on the European continent and a forward deployed

Theater Distribution Platform. As an integral part of the Defense Logistics Agency's worldwide network of 25 distribution centers, DDDE provides initial surge capability during the transition to war phase, seamless joint theater distribution, and innovative support of DLA and Service-managed materiel to all four service component warfighters serving throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Strategically positioned near the Rhine River and Ramstein Air Base in central Europe, its distribution facilities take advantage of readily available air, road, rail, and barge modes of transportation, as well as enabling its critical Theatre break-bulk mission. Current commodities distributed by DDDE are repair parts, barrier and construction material, clothing and textiles, packaged POL, operational rations, and humanitarian relief support. Additionally, DDDE supports Defense Supply Center Richmond, through its retrograde program for ozone depleting substances.

### DDDE Dedicated Truck Program

