

ANAD, DDAA Team Up to Cut Middle Layer of Receiving Engine Parts

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Streamlining production processes between the Defense Distribution Depot Anniston, Alabama (DDAA) and Anniston Army Depot (ANAD) is saving both time and money when it comes to engine parts kitting. On June 14, Col. Gerald Bates, USA, depot commander, and Lt. Col. Kevin Kahley, USA, DDAA commander, cut the ribbon at Bldg. 126, in recognition of a 'lean manufacturing initiative' where parts for the 1790 reciprocating engine are made readily available and delivered to the shop production lines.

Lean manufacturing is the process of identifying improvements, implementing changes, eliminating non-valued processes to reduce cost, and increasing productivity. This initiative has attributed to more than \$480,000 savings annually.

James Haynes, a distribution process worker, demonstrates the scanner used to locate engine parts.

In the past, ANAD handled all of the ordering of the parts, storing and sending it to the shops. Since the implementation of the lean concept, the depot now requisitions the kit stock number and the Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC) sends the material directly to DDAA for kitting and delivery to the production line.

"This cuts out the middle layer of storage and ordering," said Charles Elston, DDAA-S Facilities Manager. "When a kit is requested, it is delivered right to the shop the day before it is needed."

"We know exactly what we have on hand and what we need. Everything is in



the computer, including reclaim parts."

Because of this system, DDAA can also track the quantity of all reclaimed parts, those recovered from used engines, as well as new parts.

"With this capability, we can input a given number of kits that must be assembled, and we can tell how many kits can actually be assembled with the existing inventory."

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