



Traaen assumes command of DLA Distribution as first Naval commanding officer

By Emily Blubaugh, DLA Distribution Public Affairs

In a ceremony at DLA Distribution headquarters, New Cumberland, Pa., on Jun. 25 United States Navy Supply Corps Rear Adm. Thomas C. Traaen became the first Navy commanding officer of DLA Distribution.

Traaen comes to DLA Distribution as former vice director for Logistics, The Joint Staff and expressed

his excitement at becoming DLA Distribution's eighth commanding officer, "I look forward to stepping into my new leadership role and working with each and every one of you," said Traaen. "I will cherish every moment of command and hope that I can fill the shoes of your previous commanders who, along with you, have skillfully formulated this command into the winning institution that it is today."

In addition to his command at DLA Distribution, Traaen has been selected to deploy to Kuwait to serve as the director of Central Command's Deployment and Distribution Operations Center for six months.

"Upon his departure in August, Tom will be responsible for the movement of all material and personnel throughout the Middle East and I am extremely pleased not only to have a





DLA flag officer leading this important organization, but to know that immediately upon his return to DLA Distribution, he will take this already high-performing organization to the next level,” said DLA director Vice Adm. Alan S. Thompson.

Thompson officiated the day’s ceremony, and praised DLA Distribution employees in his opening remarks, “This is a wonderful day of leadership as we bid farewell to our Marine general, and welcome DLA Distribution’s first Naval officer. It is also an opportunity for me to recognize the entire DLA Distribution team, which I think of as a global enterprise

part of a larger global enterprise,” said Thompson. “You represent the best of DLA as you relentlessly work to provide the most effective and efficient logistics support to our Nation’s Warfighters,” he continued.

Traaen replaced United States Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Peter J. Talleri who became DLA Distribution’s first Marine commander in June 2008. Thompson presented Talleri with the Defense Superior Service Medal in recognition of the multitude of initiatives brought to fruition under his two-year command.

“Under Pete’s guidance, DLA Distribution provided

unparalleled distribution support to our military forces – at home and abroad, in garrison and deployed. The programs he directed expanded our forward presence and increased our ability to provide accurate and cost-effective logistics support to the military Services,” said Thompson.