

Maggs Recognized

BG Lally presented Ruth Maggs, DDC Contract Specialist, a DDC Commander's Coin for her work with the contract award of Defense Distribution Depot Guam, Marianas, (DDGM). Maggs spent numerous months in Guam to ensure a smooth transition from Raytheon (the Navy's contractor) to the current contractor - Eagle Support Services.



Ruth Maggs, Command Support Services

Time in Service Awards

BG Lally then presented three time in service awards: Richard Grote, DDC Internal Review, and Janice James, DDC Logistics Operations, in recognition of 25 years of service; and Michael Torner, DDC Commercial Activities Office, in recognition of 20 years of service.



Richard Grote, Internal Review; Jan James, Logistics Operations; and Michael Torner, Commercial Activities Program Office, were recognized for their time in service.

DDTP and DDCT MEOs Sign Letters of Obligation

Defense Distribution Depots Corpus Christi, TX (DDCT) and Tobyhanna, PA (DDTP) recently went through the A-76 process after which the mission work was awarded to the government's Most Efficient Organizations (MEO). Both sites signed letters of obligation — an internal equivalent to a contract award to a private sector business — during a recent post award conference. By signing the letter, the MEOs agree to meet all acceptable performance levels while staying within the staffing and budget constraints in the management plan and in-house cost estimate. The post award conferences were hosted by DDC and MEO personnel received a series of briefings outlining roles and responsibilities as well as the penalties and benefits associated with their performance.



DDCT Commander LTDC Sheila J-McClaney, USA, signs the MEO Letter of Obligation.



DDTP Site Manager Wilma Martinez signs the MEO Letter of Obligation as DDTP Commander LTC James O'Grady, USA, looks on.

DDJC Inventory Celebrates First Wall-to-Wall Count

By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

Ribbon cutting events in warehouses 1 and 19 marked the return of a completely accurate inventory to the warehouse supervisor on Dec. 20. The wall-to-wall inventory is an internal process linked to other Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA (DDJC) activities with the purpose of producing excellent customer service within the Baldrige Framework — a national quality award program that uses criteria designed to help organizations use a coordinated approach to achieve excellence.

After each ribbon was cut, Elise Koke, Chief of the Inventory Integrity Division, presented a five-page document that detailed responsibilities in seven key areas for maintaining 100 percent inventory accuracy. The wall-to-wall project got underway this summer as hiring started for 78 term employees for the 13-month project.

The wall-to-wall inventory is part of the Swarm inventory project. Swarm is not an acronym, but a concept instituted by the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) to apply increased resources to correct a problem quickly and comprehensively.

Wall-to-wall inventories start with a scrub which includes a location survey and housekeeping. This step includes repackaging, restacking, re-palletizing, cataloging, and, in general, making the stock inventory friendly and preparing the location for a count.

"It also includes a meeting with all involved to go over corrective actions and assign responsibilities," said Karen Corey, the physical inventory supervisor.

The next step is an "ad hoc" which is a follow up to make sure corrective actions are completed. Then, the count starts.

If the first count matches the amount listed in the Distribution Standard System (DSS), that stock number is completed. "If there are multiple locations in other warehouses, we have to count those also before we can complete a stock number," said Corey.

If the first count and DSS do not match, and the item is valued over \$1,000,

a second count is initiated. Some stock numbers valued at over \$5,000 are counted as many as three times to ensure accuracy. The final step for high-priced inventory involves in-depth research to balance the physical count with the books.

As of mid-January, just over 120,000 of the 750,000 stock numbers stored in 1.5 million locations were completed. Four of the 26 warehouses being wall-to-walled are completed.



DDJC Commander, COL Doug Serrano, USA, surrounded by inventory counters, cuts the ribbon in Warehouse 19, the first warehouse to have a completed wall-to-wall inventory, signifying a 100 percent accurate inventory that has been handed over to the warehouse supervisor. Also shown in front of the ribbon, from left are Gary Kahn, the Bin Division Chief; Joe Olega, the Warehouse Supervisor; and Elise Koke, Chief of the Inventory Division.

DDC Welcomes New Logistics Operations Interns

On January 24, 2005, the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Logistics Operations Directorate (J-3/J-4) welcomed six new employees hired through the DLA Corporate Intern Program. During the next two years each intern will receive considerable on-the-job training within Logistics Operations Directorate, as well as attend formal classroom training on DLA Supply Management and Physical Distribution.

"I chose the Intern Program here at DDC because I thought it would be a great business opportunity," said Shannon Hodgson, currently assigned to the Supply Management Division. "Being a recent college graduate, I did not have a lot of

business experience and wanted to get experience in more than one area of work. The Intern Program at DDC offered me this capability. I am excited to learn about all the different areas of J-3/J-4 in addition to the DLA course training we will receive."

"The program offers a lot," said Joseph Rutkowski, currently assigned to the Inventory Team. "First, the program offered a structured development path to enable us to learn the DLA/DDC systems, culture, and ways of doing business. Second, I believe the program will also help me establish a solid base of knowledge and competencies to allow me to further my career with the DDC once the program has been completed."

"I choose the DLA Corporate Intern Program because of my desire to have a career in the federal government," said Jose Abreu, currently assigned to the Reserve Affairs and Mobilization Office. "I consider myself fortunate to be working in a position that I like and for an institution that I have come to admire. Considering that my education is in business administration I knew it had to be an agency that was goal-oriented and focused on results. I always knew that I wanted to work in a place that possessed the highest professional caliber and work ethic. When I investigated DLA and DDC, I knew the program and this organization were the perfect match for me."

"I chose this intern program because it seemed to offer more real experience than other prospective employers," said Laura Fritz, currently working on the OCONUS team (depots outside the continental U.S.). "I also look forward to two years of training as a great way to familiarize myself with the entire organization. Not many employers are willing to invest this much into a recent college graduate."

During their second year, each employee will receive several months of field training by working in core operational areas at one of DDC's 26 distribution centers.

"Although I have only been at DDC for a few weeks now, I have already learned so much about DLA and DDC," said Hodgson.

"The people at DDC have made a great impression on me. Everyone has been very nice and willing to help which makes the transition much easier. My favorite event thus far was the tour of the Eastern Distribution Center located at DDSP (Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA). I was amazed at the size for one, but also with the organization of the workflow. Walking through the plant really puts the job we are doing into perspective. I am excited to know that I will have a part in the whole process."

"I am very pleased with the program," said Abreu. The DDC leadership team "is very supportive and provides us the tools to be successful. The guidance and dedication of the Program Coordinator, Mr. Michael Hasuga, has ensured a smooth transition into the organization. The program maintains an excellent balance between formal training and real hands-on experience. This combination of experience and training is the perfect recipe for success. Honestly, DDC has been all and more than I expected. The organizational culture and unity that DDC employees share is like no other that I have ever seen. People really care about what they do and recognize that their contributions make a difference."

Also accepting DDC internship positions were Shannon Lukins, currently assigned to the Transportation Team, and Alexander Ramirez, current assigned to the Customer Relationship Management Team.



New arrivals for the DDC Career Intern Program receive briefings on DDC's operations to make them familiar with the mission.