

air reels overhead as suggested by Team Versatile member Anthony Ramirez has proven to be both a safety improvement and a time saver. "The new hose reels make work easier for everyone and a lot safer," said Ramirez.

Other improvements such as packers working in teams of two and locating the hoist in the packing configuration for use with large bulk items have contributed to the tremendous success of this effort.

"The success of Team Versatile's efforts is tremendous. In just a month's time, the backlog in the packing area has been reduced by nearly 66 percent," praised DDCT Commander LTC Sheila J-McClaney, USA.

The team's ultimate goal is to stage the workload with the proper container and packing material to be packed as soon as it is received, eliminating the need to store the materiel in a bin location.

## DDRV Turns Excess Cardboard into Cash

*By Jessica Walter-Groft, DDC Command Affairs*

Defense Distribution Depot Richmond, VA (DDRV), recently moved nearly 200 tons of cardboard storage boxes out of the Defense Supply Center Richmond (DSCR) waste stream and turned it into cash.

DDRV provided an innovative solution for the removal of excess storage boxes. Instead of spending time and money to have the boxes crushed, DDRV personnel found a local contractor that not only took the cardboard, but also paid to receive it.

DDRV trucked the cardboard to a local facility where it was crushed for recycling and earned more than \$12,000 that was returned to DSCR's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Fund.

"We were proud to develop this solution for DSCR that not only avoided disposal costs but also earned money for the MWR Fund," said Jerri Taylor, DDRV Commander.

Additional excess boxes were shipped to other Defense Distribution Center (DDC) sites for use. DDRV shipped more than 800 pallets of cardboard boxes to Defense Distribution Depots Jacksonville, FL (DDJF);

Susquehanna, PA (DDSP); Hill, UT (DDHU); and Oklahoma City, OK (DDOO).



*DDR employees Julie Harris and Michael Hudson prepare boxes to be recycled.*

## DDJC Employee Suggestion Wins Award

*By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs*

Chapelle Jackson, Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA (DDJC) Woodworker, displays the commander's coin he received from DDJC Commander, COL Doug Serrano, USA, for making a meaningful change to improve products and services creating value for stakeholders as outlined in the Baldrige Framework, a national quality award program that uses criteria designed to help organizations use a coordinated approach to achieve excellence.

Also receiving coins and \$250 On-the-Spot Awards were Woodworkers Victor Centeno, and Ken Bonnafon (*right*), who fabricated the ramps shown. The ramps were needed to test the feasibility of using wheel risers on DDJC Building 56 to engage truck restraints, which were otherwise inoperable because of the pavement's slope. The wooden ramps provided engineers an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of permanent risers at the new warehouse. The woodworkers fabricated the ramps on short notice from a simple sketch.



An advertisement for DDC's Dedicated Truck Program. The top half features the text "DDC's Dedicated Truck Program" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with "Guaranteed Support for America's Warfighters" in a smaller font below it. The bottom half of the advertisement shows a large white semi-truck with a trailer, driving on a road. The background is a dark, overcast sky.