

## **DDSI Celebrates One-Year Anniversary**

*By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office*

The Defense Distribution Center's (DDC) 23rd distribution facility, Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella, Italy (DDSI), celebrated its one-year anniversary April 1, 2005. To commemorate the occasion, DDSI conducted a ceremony and recognized employees for their contributions over the past year.

"I could not be more pleased with the many outstanding achievements of our DDSI team over the past year," said CAPT (Sel) John Camuso, SC, USN, Commander of DDSI. "Working together, our joint DDSI team consisting of U.S. Civil Servants, U.S. Navy Sailors, and Italian Foreign Nationals, has implemented a myriad of new procedures and process improvements to ensure mission success and customer service excellence."

During the past year, DDSI's workload exceeded expectations by almost 30 percent. This included logistical support in a fast-paced Sixth Fleet operational environment in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. DDSI also provided support to four Carrier Strike Groups operating simultaneously in theater in support of both the Navy's Fleet Response Plan and the Summer Olympics.

In 2004, DDSI established, streamlined, and continually improved distribution processes in support of forward-deployed detachments. "The results of DDSI's hard work . . . increased material velocity, increased in-transit visibility, and enhanced time-definite delivery . . . have significantly improved distribution processes in Southern Europe," said CDR Camuso.

DDSI has established a solid foundation for future distribution process improvements by teaming with the European Command; Naval Air Station, Sigonella; Fleet Industrial Supply Center, Sigonella; United States Transportation Command; and DDC, to successfully implement a Southern European Regional Distribution Center (SERDC).

DDC and DDSI are further poised to meet future customer requirements in theater by better leveraging available storage capacity by its enhancements to existing storage facilities and equipment and through its ongoing construction projects.

With just over 125,000 line items expected to be processed this year, DDSI is positioning itself for the future. "DDSI has laid a solid foundation for continued success in the coming year as we continue to meet Warfighter requirements including those

of our forward deployed Navy Fleet," said CAPT (Sel) Camuso.

DDSI is one of 26 DDC distribution facilities located throughout the world providing forward stock positioning support and enhanced physical distribution services to the Armed Forces located in the Mediterranean region. DDSI's primary customers include the Aviation Support Division, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Division, and Navy ships and squadrons operating in the Mediterranean region.



*Marking DDSI's one year Anniversary with a ceremonial cake cutting: Outgoing Operations Manager, LT Mike McCormack, SC, USN; DDSI Deputy Commander Denise Cordeiro-Bennett; and Incoming Operations Manager, LT Rob Alexander, SC, USN.*