

DDC's Safety and Environmental Programs unite under one management system

New structure offers consistency, collaboration

By Jessica Walter, DDC Command Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center's (DDC) Safety and Occupational Health Program has been combined with DDC's Environmental Program to create the new Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Program.

The new structure will provide a consistent management approach to both programs, according to Michael Dobbs, Chief, Environmental, Safety & Occupation Health Office.

"By bringing the two programs together, we can apply the structure of DDC's EMS [Environmental Management System] to Safety and leverage existing resources such as personnel and management systems," said Dobbs.

DDC's EMS is designed to incorporate DDC's impact on the environment into day-to-day business practices and decision making. Under the new structure, the policies and procedures of the Safety Program will also be integrated into this forward-thinking process.

Before the programs were combined, each of DDC's 26 sites around the globe operated generally independent Safety and Occupational Health Programs following broad guidelines and principles, according to DDC Safety Program Manager Dave Mack. With the restructuring of the programs, there will be one overall management system and performance measurements applicable

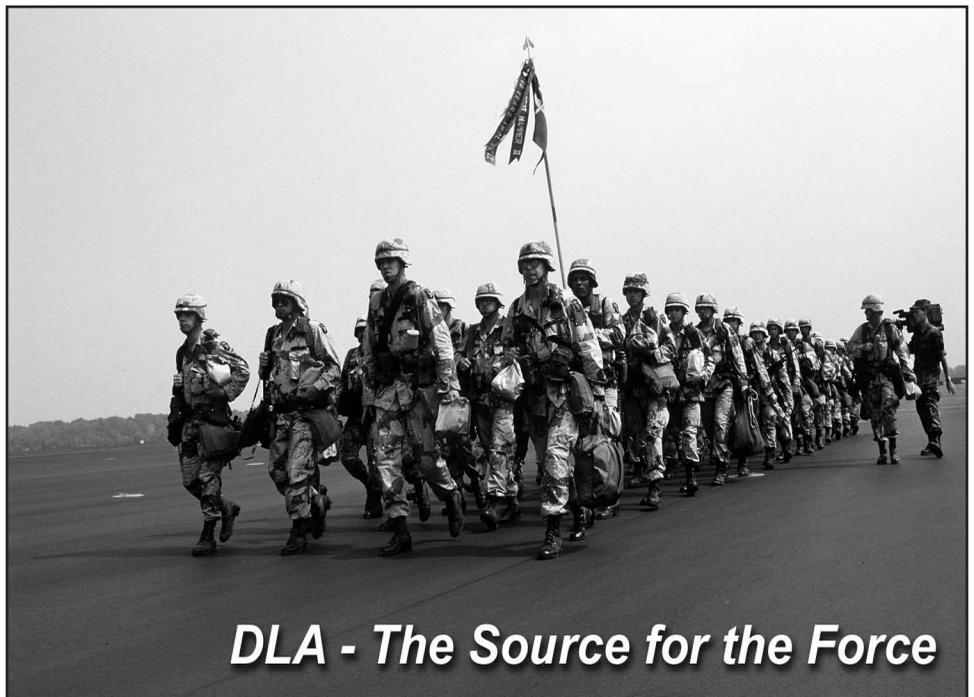
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to all sites providing a more ordered approach.

"I'm excited about opportunity and the positive changes the initiative brings forward," said Mack. "We will be building upon the existing Safety and Occupational Health Program and shifting from a management approach to a collaborative approach."

According to Dobbs, the integration is a smart business decision because there are several overlaps between the Environmental Program and the Safety and Occupation Health Program including the transportation of hazardous materials, workforce protection, emergency preparedness, ensuring the availability of safe drinking water, and asbestos removal.

"Our goal is to bring synergy among the programs that will enable consistent control of operations for the Environmental, Safety and Occupation Health Program at DDC," said Dobbs.



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