

DDC Acquisition Operations Directorate restructured to include A-76 Program Office

By Jessica Walter, DDC Command Affairs

In an effort to meet the changing needs of the Warfighter, the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) A-76 Program Office was recently realigned under the DDC Acquisition Operations Directorate as the Acquisition Management Branch to allow for closer coordination on all acquisition related activities.

“The DDC A-76 Program Office, which includes acquisition planning, is no longer a separate function under the DDC umbrella,” said DDC Acquisition Operations Director Gene Surmacz, “they are our partners.”

The primary responsibilities of the Acquisition Management Branch include facilitating the A-76 studies, acquisition planning, establishing a Continuing Government Activity (CGA) at each site, providing all necessary training to the CGA staff, managing work plans, and assisting in developing a Performance Work Statement (PWS) for each DDC acquisition.

As DDC nears the end of the initial A-76 public-private competitions for mission work, there could be a greater number of distribution centers that are contractor operated. According to DDC Deputy Director for Acquisition Management John Yost, this leads to a need for a project management approach in coordinating acquisitions for the re-competitions of the sites operated by private sector companies.

Acquisition Project Management is a comprehensive approach to acquisitions that includes organizing and directing short-term objectives to accomplish the five key steps in the acquisition life cycle: Acquisition planning, defining requirements, market research, contract execution, and performance management.

According to Surmacz, the reorganization will further enable continuity of all acquisitions by establishing a systematic approach to managing all aspects of acquisition planning proactively, consistently, and on schedule.

“The reorganization will allow DDC to more closely align with customer demands and provide more tailored support.”

The government’s long-standing policy has been that, to the extent it is cost effective, agencies should rely on the private sector for needed goods and services. “This makes it even more important that DDC has processes in place to effectively manage acquisition planning,” said Surmacz.

The general policy governing competitive sourcing is the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76.

DDC operates 26 distribution centers around the world and one Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point. Eighteen of those sites are operated by government employees. Nine sites are contractor operated.



DDC Acquisition Operations Director Gene Surmacz describes the realignment at a recent DDC Leadership Conference.

DLA J-3 Deputy Director brings message to DDC Acquisition workforce



DLA Logistics Operations Deputy Director Scottie Knott, SES, met with employees of the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Acquisition Operations Directorate to explain their role in ensuring DLA’s acquisition integrity.

Knott briefed the group on new policy changes that are being implemented and will impact acquisition activities. “You’re a key player in ensuring DLA does this correctly,” she said.