

DDC celebrates a decade of distribution excellence

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center, established in 1997, celebrated 10 years of support to the men and women of America's Armed Forces Oct. 1.

Established by combining two regional distribution commands, the formation of DDC created a unified, responsive single network responsible for the distribution of military supplies.

Since DDC's stand up, it has issued billions of supplies to America's war fighters including more than 20 million orders for materiel in support of the Global War on Terror.

Those who benefit from DDC's services, however, are not limited solely to America's military. Over the past decade, DDC has also been called upon to provide distribution support during humanitarian missions resulting from

hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, and other disasters.

As the distribution industry has evolved, DDC has remained on the cutting edge of technological advancement. DDC's own warehouse and transportation management system, the Distribution Standard System, has been essential in ensuring the availability of critical information across the distribution network.

Additionally, DDC has been a pioneer in the use of radio frequency identification technology and other systems used to track cargo throughout the supply chain. DDC is also a partner in the research of alternative fuels to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil.

The military's needs have changed in the last 10 years, and DDC has kept pace, offering additional customized services,



creating a deployable distribution center capable of responding to distribution needs anywhere in the world, and opening additional overseas distribution centers in Kuwait, Italy, Korea, and Guam.

“The past 10 years have shown the Defense Distribution Center’s ability to adapt to changing war fighter needs. As we look forward to the next 10 years, we will continue to have opportunities to position ourselves to provide world-class support to our customers,” said DDC Commander Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar during an address to DDC headquarters staff at a recent celebration of the organization’s 10-year anniversary.

“If there is a way to provide additional services to our customers or a way to save them money, then we need to pursue it,” added Collyar.

Throughout DDC’s history, the organization has remained focused on delivering best value, world-class combat support to America’s military, providing a safe and healthy work environment for employees, and acting as responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars and the environment.

Today, DDC operates 26 distribution centers around the world including two strategic distribution platforms as well as nine map support offices.

DDC Commander announces realignment of headquarters functions

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Defense Distribution Center Commander Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar announced the results of a study to realign the organization during a recent Town Hall meeting with headquarters employees.

According to Collyar, the new structure positions DDC to provide more responsive, agile, forward-focused support to America’s war fighters.

Collyar assembled a team of employees

from various directorates within DDC to conduct a study of the organization’s structure in 2007.

“The team took a look at our structure and processes and found instances of duplication of work and other functions that need to be reformed,” said Collyar.

Collyar accepted the team’s recommended restructuring plan in August 2007.

The team’s recommendations include transforming the current J-3/4 Logistics Operations Directorate and realigning the Distribution Re-engineering directorate. Many of the functions from the Distribution Re-engineering area will be absorbed into other areas in the organization.

Components of Logistics Operations will be combined with Strategic Plans to form a new J-4/5 (Planning and Supply Chain Integration) directorate while the remaining functions will be split into two separate organizations: J-3 (Distribution Operations) and the Directorate of Distribution Support.

Additional changes include establishing a Command Support Office and rearranging the reporting structure of some sections of the Command Staff such as Military Personnel and the Transformation Office.

According to Collyar, the new structure enables DDC to be a more responsive organization by eliminating the need for employees to navigate multiple layers of management to reach decisions.

“In today’s fast-paced climate, it’s critical that combat support organizations like DDC are properly positioned to adapt and respond quickly to the ever-changing demands of our customers,” Collyar said.

He added, “We owe the best support to the war fighter and to the taxpayer at the best value.”

A cost savings of more than \$17 million is expected during the first year after the new structure is implemented.

The changes to the organization are expected to reduce the number of DDC headquarters positions to 410 which will result in a reduction of 49 positions currently filled.

“It’s important to remember that we’re removing the positions – not the people,” emphasized Collyar.

During the Town Hall, Collyar reassured the workforce that a reduction in force, or RIF, was not anticipated.

Instead, to reach the lower workforce number, DDC opened a targeted window for employees wishing to accept a voluntary early retirement or separation incentive, or VERA/VSIP.

Collyar emphasized that employees who are moving to new directorates will be afforded ample opportunity to provide their input and to receive any necessary training.

“We want to grow and develop our workforce, and we will work with everyone to make sure we match the right people with the right jobs. We want them to excel,” he said.

In the decade since it was established, DDC has consistently evolved to meet the changing needs of America’s military and the Department of Defense supply chain.

Warner Robins distribution facility transitions to government workforce

DDWG prepares to become DDC’s third strategic distribution platform

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center transitioned the distribution support functions at Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins, Ga., or DDWG, from a contractor-operated work force to a federal employee operation Dec 1. This transition marks the beginning of a multi-phase approach to transform DDWG into DDC’s third strategic distribution platform.

“The BRAC 2005 mandate requires that DDWG and another DDC distribution center, the Defense Distribution Depot Oklahoma City, Okla., expand their services to include a strategic distribution capability,” said DDWG’s current Director, Bob King, “This is the beginning of DDWG’s expansion.”