

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.”

Establishing DDWG as an SDP will improve the mobilization, deployment and sustainment of combatant forces deployed worldwide, but specifically to DOD customers located in the Southeastern U.S. DDC expects DDWG to be fully functioning as an SDP in 2011. "This is part of the Department of Defense's efforts to maximize war fighting capability and efficiency through the Base Realignment and Closure process," said King.

SDPs are designed for flexibility, national security, continuity of operations, and to effectively respond to war mobilization, national emergencies, and natural disasters.

DDWG's SDP will be equipped with state-of-the-art consolidation, containerization, and palletization capabilities, called CCP, or Containerization Consolidation Point. Construction of the new \$28 million CCP is slated to begin in summer 2008 and be completed in 2010.

Hiring for DDWG's government positions began in June and will continue with the standup of the new missions and workload until the initial 319 authorized positions are filled. "People are essential to the success of this transformation; DDC and DDWG have a structured approach for managing the transition," said King.

Support to the Defense Logistics Agency's Warner Robins customers, and ultimately to the war fighter, will continue uninterrupted as the Department of Defense achieves efficiencies that enhance logistics support to our joint forces. Currently, DDWG provides physical distribution support for materiel located at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center. DDWG's worldwide support includes providing customers in all U.S. armed forces with parts and equipment for F-15, C-130, C-5 and C-17 aircraft, target acquisition systems, and most airborne electronic warfare systems, and aircraft avionics used by all DOD services and some federal agencies.

DDWG's biggest customers are the 402nd Maintenance Wing, the Joint Stars E-8 Aircraft Wing, 116th/5th Combat

Communication, and the KC-135 Aircraft Group located at Robins AFB, as well as major Air Force bases worldwide.

As part of the DLA vision of forward presence, DDWG now provides direct support to the newly-appointed commander, DLA Warner Robins. This new concept of DLA forward means that there is now truly one DLA face to the local customers. The relationship has proven to be a great model that will be used throughout the DLA enterprise. "It has been beneficial to DDWG transition, as we have together gotten much closer to our customer's operations and needs," said King.

DDC currently manages two SDPs located in Pennsylvania and California, which support DLA distribution centers throughout the world.

Gonzales named as DRMS Director, Peters named as DDC Deputy Commander

By Jessica Walter, APR, DDC Public Affairs

Defense Logistics Agency Director Army Lt. Gen. Robert Dail announced Dec. 19 that senior executives Twila Gonzales and Paul Peters will exchange positions in March 2008.

Gonzales will become the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service in Battle Creek, Mich., while Peters will assume the role of Deputy Commander of the Defense Distribution Center in New Cumberland, Pa.

Gonzales has served as DDC's Deputy Commander since March 2007. She has been a member of the DDC team since the organization's inception in 1997. Gonzales led DDC's A-76 Program Office until 2005 when she became the director of Distribution Re-engineering.

Gonzales was inducted into the Senior Executive Service in June 2006. She has also been a long-time proponent of leadership and workforce development.

In an email message to DDC employees Dec. 19, she expressed her gratitude to the workforce. "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here in New Cumberland and working with such a first-class group of logisticians," she wrote. "I have learned much from each and every one of you and have great confidence you will support Mr. Peters with the same high degree of excellence as you have shown me."

Gonzales' message also lauded Peters' ability to serve as DDC's second in command. "Mr. Peters brings with him a wealth of experience and will help lead the DDC to higher levels of achievement and help carry the Director's vision for extending the enterprise – continuing to provide outstanding war fighter support."

Peters has served as the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service since February 2006, overseeing more than 100 disposal sites worldwide and five Demilitarization Centers. Peters has also served as the program manager for DLA Business Systems Modernization. With more than 20 years of federal service, he has also held positions with the Navy and Air Force, among others.



In March 2008, Defense Distribution Center Deputy Commander Twila Gonzales, Senior Executive Service, above, will become the Director of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service in Battle Creek, Mich., while Senior Executive Paul Peters of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service will assume the role of Deputy Commander of the Defense Distribution Center in New Cumberland, Pa.