



Six DLA Distribution winners honored at the 43rd annual DLA Employee Recognition Ceremony

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At the 43rd annual DLA Employee Recognition Ceremony, DLA Distribution employees were honored in six different categories for their outstanding work in supporting the Warfighter including: Team Performance Award: Medium Team; Junior Officer Reservist of the Year; Junior Enlisted Reservist of the Year; DLA Leader of the Year; Excellence in Pre-Award Contracting; and Junior Enlisted/Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

“Today we recognize the best talent, most innovative thinking, experience, and skill we have to offer in the Agency,” said United States Navy Supply Corps Vice Adm. Alan Thompson, DLA director. “These employees are making our credo, ‘Doing what’s right for the Armed Forces,’ a reality.”

DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., Expeditionary Team was the winner of the Team Performance Award: Medium Team, and was recognized for their outstanding support to the Central Command Area of Responsibility retrograde mission.

United States Army Reserve Maj. Mark A. Rode, DLA Distribution-Army Reserve Element, or ARE, training and operations officer, was the recipient of the Junior Officer Reservist of the Year award. Rode was recognized for his instrumental role in the development of DLA and Army-specific training that ensures all soldiers assigned to the ARE are ready to deploy at a moment’s notice.

The winner of the Junior Enlisted Reservist of the Year was DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif.’s logistics specialist, Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Tan. Tan was responsible for tracking inventories for over 3.4 million



Top row, left to right: Frances Placeres, United States Navy Petty Officer Keith L. Russell, United States Army Reserve Maj. Mark A. Rode, and United States Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Tan. Bottom row, left to right: DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., Expeditionary Team, and DLA Distribution Acquisition Assistance Team.

construction material items during his recent deployment. He was instrumental in saving over \$56,000 in potential procurements costs by finding alternative property designated for reuse, to fill requirements during deployment.

Frances Placeres, DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., supervisory distribution facilities specialist, received the DLA Leader of the Year Award. Placeres embraced the DLA Distribution System Lean Implementation at DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif.’s, Consolidation and Containerization Point, or CCP. The CCP ships 6,000 lines per month to all Services throughout Korea, Japan, Hawaii, Guam, and Alaska. Placeres set the example by participating in Value Stream Mapping, process flow development, training, standardization, and CPI events.

Recognizing a need to continuously examine acquisition programs and identify improvement opportunities to better serve customers and stakeholders, the DLA Distribution Acquisition Assistance Team implemented a comprehensive Acquisition Assistance

Program that provides advice, guidance, and training to requirement generators throughout the acquisition process. As a result, the team was awarded Excellence in Pre-Award Contracting.

Finally, United States Navy Petty Officer Keith L. Russell, DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, logistics specialist, was awarded the DLA Junior Enlisted/NCO of the Year. Russell expertly screened and processed more than 6,000 high priority requisitions valued in excess of \$47 million in support of the Warfighter in FY2010. His emphasis on providing superb customer service was a key factor in DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan’s, mission success, resulting in 100 percent customer satisfaction with no deficiencies or service complaints.

“The DLA workforce is vital to our current and long-term success,” said Thompson. “The collective accomplishments of these individuals breathe life into our three focus areas: Warfighter Support Enhancement, Stewardship Excellence, and Workforce Development.”