



DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa.: largest distr

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In the heart of Pennsylvania is DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., one of four strategic distribution platforms assigned to DLA Distribution, headquartered in New Cumberland, Pa. DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., provides integrated distribution solutions in support of America's Armed Forces around the clock and around the world through effective receipt, storage, control, and shipment of material.

DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa.'s, history begins before World War I. At that time, the Army's depot structure was primarily designed to support the defense of the United States mainland, rather than overseas deployment. The Army needed to create depots overnight near the Atlantic coast to support the World War I build-up of forces. Three reserve depots were established, beginning with New Cumberland, Pa., to store Army bureau supplies for deployment overseas to troops in Europe.

Because cargo moved primarily by rail, New Cumberland was selected in 1917 because of its close proximity to Pennsylvania Railroad and one of the largest classification rail yards in Enola located eight miles east. President Wilson approved expenditures in February of 1918, and construction began in April on a new storage depot under the supervision of the United

States Army Corps of Engineers. The federal government purchased the 832 acres of land owned by eight local farmers for \$160,167.

For 74 years, DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., was known as New Cumberland Army Depot. In April of 1991, New Cumberland Army Depot transferred from the United States Army Depot System Command to the Defense Logistics Agency. At the time of deactivation, New Cumberland Army Depot had the distinction of being the oldest, continuously operated depot in the United States Army.

The consolidation of Defense Depot Mechanicsburg, Pa., and New Cumberland Army Depot created the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., or DDSP. The lower Susquehanna Valley is the location of the two sites, and is the logic behind the selection of the name. In June 2010, DDSP assumed its current name DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., as part of DLA's "We Are DLA" campaign.

DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., operates two large facilities 11 miles apart. The east site is located on 850 acres, just outside the community of New Cumberland, Pa. At the west site,



DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., operates the Eastern Distribution Center, the largest distribution facility in the Department of Defense.

DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., occupies two-thirds of the buildings owned by the host command, Naval Inventory Control Point. This installation is 825 acres in size and is adjacent to the city of Mechanicsburg, Pa.

DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., operates the largest automated distribution facility in the Department of Defense: the Eastern Distribution Center, or EDC. The EDC occupies 1.7 million sq. ft. of processing and storage space, and is the hub of operations, processing 66% of materiel shipped to customers. The mechanized facilities within the EDC provide state-of-the-art processing, allowing DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., to provide military and commercial repair parts, clothing and textiles, medical supplies, and industrial and electronic components to military customers throughout the United States and the world.

Operating the Department of Defense's Distribution facility



A DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., employee packages items in the EDC's Walk and Pick area.

The second largest building at the New Cumberland site, a 420,000 sq. ft. warehouse completed in 2007, contains material handling equipment used to consolidate and process fast moving clothing and textiles products under one roof, rather than storing and packing between 11 buildings at the Mechanicsburg location. With this facility, the remainder of the bulk backup material is stored in only three to four warehouses. This new general purpose, bulk warehouse is a key building block in DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa.'s, depot modernization program. The program will replace six World War I era warehouses with three state-of-the-art facilities.

Supported by 57 additional warehouses in New Cumberland, Pa., and Mechanicsburg, Pa., DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa. averages nearly 900 surface container shipments, 2,800 truckload shipments, and 2,400 air pallet shipments monthly.

Container consolidation points for both the Army and the Air Force are operated at DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa, which consolidates material from U.S. facilities into sea van containers and air pallets for overseas shipments.

In 2010, the DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., workforce built over 28,400 air pallets and filled over 8,300 sea containers. Over 90 percent of the air pallets and 70 percent of the sea containers were destined to support the Warfighter in the United States Central Command. More than 30,800 trucks were loaded with material and delivered in country to over 50 military installations. Massive rewarehousing was accomplished in preparation for repositioned Base Realignment and Closure material. As a result of this repositioning, DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., has stewardship of over one million different stock items. At the same time, DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., improved and measured processes, empowered the workforce, cooperated as a team across work functions and agencies, planned the use of facilities and utilities wisely, and listened and adapted to their customer's needs.

DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., is one of the largest employers in the Susquehanna Valley,

with over 2,000 employees. In addition, the site is home to DLA Distribution headquarters, with over 500 employees; DLA Installation Support, with over 500 employees; and an additional 22 tenant commands, with over 600 civilian employees and over 300 military employees. If DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., was listed among Fortune 500 companies, it would be ranked 241.

With a workforce that values the premise of doing what is right for the Armed Forces and the Department of Defense, DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., continues to be a learning organization committed to its people and the development of its culture, while striving to foster an environment that encourages ideas and creativity that enhance safety, productivity, and morale.



A DLA Distribution Susquehanna, Pa., employee works to pack uniforms in the clothing and textiles area.