



DISTRIBUTION *In Review*

November 2010



SPECIAL EDITION:

DLA DISTRIBUTION EXPEDITIONARY



DLA DISTRIBUTION *In Review*

Table of Contents - November 2010

Common purpose: Unity of effort, unity of thought. An update from the DLA Distribution commander.....	3
EProcurement Release 1.1 scheduled to launch at DLA Distribution	5
Special edition: DLA Distribution Expeditionary.....	6
Relief efforts to contingency operations, the evolution of DLA’s deployable capability	8
DLA Distribution Expeditionary: Afghanistan in Photos	10
DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas: Working for freedom.....	16
Spotlight on: “Conclusions – An Important Step in Action Planning” – A DLA Distribution culture update	18
“Strategically Speaking” with Donnie Wright, material examiner and identifier work leader, DLA Distribution Anniston, Ala.	19



COMMON PURPOSE: UNITY OF EFFORT, UNITY OF THOUGHT

AN UPDATE FROM THE DLA DISTRIBUTION COMMANDER

I want to take this opportunity to provide you with my Commander's Interim Guidance for Calendar Year 2011. I call it interim because it will suffice until we publish our 180 day plan early next year. As I mentioned in my Change of Command note we have undertaken an effort to build a DLA Distribution Strategic vision that aligns us to the Director's Strategic Plan and his Annual Guidance. We are 140 days into that planning cycle and when vetted and approved by the headquarters, I will release the results as our strategic plan and parse the applicable portions to you in the form of my Annual Guidance.

First, we need to establish our course on a firm foundation; you have heard me speak to Command and Control (C2) and Alignment. While I believe we are organizationally sound we need to "operationalize" DLA Distribution. J3 will be tasked with Current Operations, the J4 with Future Operations and the J5 with Future Plans. In terms of C2, they will be the "supported codes", the remaining codes will be "supporting codes" lending HR, IT, contracting, and expeditionary support among others to the three supported codes. Regarding alignment, we are working with DLA headquarters to establish six overarching regions that will help facilitate standardization through the distribution enterprise. In anticipation of the Logistics Efficiencies being approved and rolled out, regionalization will aid us in our assumption of those efficiencies that will affect us. *(Continued on next page.)*



DLA DISTRIBUTION IN REVIEW

Commander

RDML Thomas C. Traaen, SC, USN

Deputy Commander

William H. Budden, SES

Chief of Staff

COL Frederick R. Dennison, USA

Public Affairs Officer

Stacy L. Umstead

Co-Editor

Emily C. Blubaugh

Co-Editor

Jessica R. Roman

DLA Distribution is the lead center for distribution for the Defense Logistics Agency. DLA Distribution In Review is an authorized publication intended for civilian and military employees of DLA Distribution and subordinate commands. DLA Distribution In Review is circulated monthly. Unless otherwise indicated, all photos are property of the Defense Logistics Agency. The contents of DLA Distribution In Review do not necessarily reflect the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency or DLA Distribution.

Address mail to: Editor, DLA Distribution In Review, DLA Distribution (CX), 2001 Mission Drive, New Cumberland, PA 17070-5000 or ddc.paostaff@dla.mil, phone number 717-770-2880. DLA Distribution In Review is also available online at the DLA Distribution website, www.ddc.dla.mil.





My Guidance:

1. Improved Distribution Readiness...Current Operations.

This is a dedicated effort to make each Depot as effective (meeting our established metrics) and as efficient (cost effective) as possible. We need to focus our efforts on getting our metrics back to "Green." We will take on a new emphasis in five specific areas:

- *People*
- *Equipment*
- *Process/Policy*
- *Financials*
- *Facilities*

It is also time to look at reducing our carbon footprint. I want us to look at ways to use alternative fuels and recycling, both in terms of what we use and the waste we produce.

2. The 180 Day Plan...Future Operations.

There are a number of initiatives included in this area, but the center of effort here is to look forward and build the rules and tools to meet future demand from both an internal and external vantage point. Much of what gets developed here will be provided to Current Operations for execution. Some of the initiatives being explored include:

- *Leveraging future technologies (pRFID, Pick to Light, Pick to Voice)*
- *Vendor Compliance*
- *Creating a Center of Expeditionary and Deployment Excellence*

- *SS&D and SNO compliance*
- *Establishing storefronts under the One DLA concept*

3. Combatant Command Engagement...Future Plans.

Two primary areas of focus...we need to build Integrated Distribution Strategies for each of our regional war fighters, or COCOMs. Integrated in that they will be fully vetted through all our stakeholders... the Services, TRANSCOM, and other agencies as required. We need to leverage our distribution network to the maximum extent possible to effectively and efficiently support the Warfighter. In other words, we need to provide the Joint Force Commander freedom within the battle space without regard to logistics. We'll put it where they need it, and when they need it.

Second, we have to get better at effectively partnering with our non DoD partners. We need a Whole of Government approach whereby we leverage non DoD capability. We also need to work more collaboratively with our coalition partners.

I believe that we are aligned with DLA Headquarters in our efforts; I have taken VADM Thompson's strategy and Annual Guidance into account as I have formulated my Guidance. Please ensure you are positioned to work these initiatives hard in the coming months.

As always, thanks for your continued support.

T.C. TRAAEN
Rear Admiral, SC, USN
Commander



**DLA DISTRIBUTION IS AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

**All Federal employment opportunities are posted at
the Office of Personnel Management website:
www.usajobs.gov**

USAJOBS
"WORKING FOR AMERICA"

EProcurement Release 1.1 scheduled to launch at DLA Distribution

EProcurement, DLA's single contract writing and contract administration tool within the Enterprise Business System, or EBS, went live on Nov. 29, 2010, with the deployment of Release 1.0 to DLA Document Services and DLA Strategic Materials. Release 1.0 provides limited functionality specific to delivery order processing, and provides limited support to source, solicit, and award incoming requirements. Subsequent planned releases will bring additional functionality, interfaces, forms, and automation to the workforce.

EProcurement, short for Enterprise Procurement, is a software program within EBS that automates and standardizes contract writing throughout the agency. Directly tied to stewardship initiatives outlined in the 2011 DLA Director's Guidance, EProcurement was developed to replace DLA's legacy contracting systems, which range from manual-entry paper systems to fully automated systems used at the agency's various field activities.

EProcurement was designed to work within the agency's Enterprise Business System, the technology hub that makes DLA's daily supply-management operations possible. EBS is the "backbone" that contains all the core financial, technical, procurement and item data. EProcurement will work as a subsystem of EBS and will be used by DLA's buyers and contract administrators to process purchase

requests and customer-direct requisitions.

Release 1.1 is scheduled to go-live on Feb. 28, 2011. Two rollouts are planned for this release and will include the following audiences:

Rollout - February 28, 2011

- *DLA Contracting Services Office (DCSO)-H/E (HQ / Energy)*
- *United States Marine Corps (USMC)*
- *Retrofit: DLA Document Services and DLA Strategic Materials*

Rollout - April 25, 2011

- *DLA Contracting Services Office (DCSO)-B (Battle Creek)*
- *DLA Disposition Services*
- *DLA Distribution*

In addition to the functionality provided by Release 1.0, Release 1.1 adds the following key features:

- *Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request Processing*
- *SF18, SF33, SF26, SF30, SF1442*
- *Depot Level Repairables Interfaces*
- *Excluded Parties List System, Electronic Data Access, and Online Representations and Certifications Application Interfaces*
- *Local Forms Generation*
- *Records Management Repository*
- *Bid Evaluation Support*
- *Electronic Data Interchange 850 and 860 (outbound)*

- *SF30 produced within the system*

To prepare Release 1.1 users for a successful deployment, a number of transition activities are underway to assist with job impacts, system training, and user communications. The first major event, a rollout kickoff presentation delivered to executives and first line supervisors, has occurred at some of the Release 1.1 deployment locations already. This rollout kickoff provides an overview of upcoming activities and discusses timeframes, roles and responsibilities.

Shortly following the rollout kickoff, supervisors will participate in a supervisor workshop, followed later by additional end-user and supervisor transition activities such as change discussions, a user orientation, instructor-led and computer-based training, and a pre go-live event. These events will assist users in gaining knowledge of the upcoming changes, understanding how their jobs will be impacted, becoming knowledgeable using EProcurement, and locating training materials and support resources.

Release 1.0 users will receive retrofit training on the functionality introduced in Release 1.1. Be sure to look for more EProcurement information as Release 1.1 and subsequent release activities continue!

SPECIAL EDITION: DLA DIS



DISTRIBUTION EXPEDITIONARY





Relief efforts to combat the evolution of DLA

*By Stacy L. Umstead, DLA Distribution
Public Affairs*

On June 1, 2006, America's combat logistics support agency, the Defense Logistics Agency, stood up its deployable distribution depot, a deployable and scalable operation tasked, primarily, to receive, store, issue, transship and maintain in-transit visibility for items needed for relief efforts within the continental United States.

Meeting in Texarkana, Texas for the first time in 2006, employees, with logistics and distribution skills, from three different parts of the United States came together - their first task at hand - get to know one another. With the assistance of team-building experts, the multi-



The Defense Logistics Agency established its deployable capability in June 2006.

cultural team built a cohesiveness that today, even with changes in team members, remains evident today.

The first meeting also brought extensive training on the deployable mission and concept of operations, the chain of command, deployment planning, media relations, first aid, assembling and building the deployable campus and use of communications in a deployed environment.

With the basics under their belt, the deployable team performed "Exercise Quick Deliver" in September 2006 in Corpus Christi, Texas. The exercise was executed to validate wholesale distribution concepts following a disaster in the continental United States; with objectives to validate deployment, reception, staging and onward integration and redeployment concepts, conduct assessment team operations, establish a



Texarkana, Texas, Red Cross provided first aid and CPR training to the team as part of the deployable depot's kick-off training.

Contingency operations, A's deployable capability



Reservists prepare cargo for shipment.



A forklift lifts an air pallet off of a delivery truck at Osan Air Base, Korea.

Distribution Tactical Operations Center, perform mission in support of mock disaster relief efforts; and on order, redeploy to home stations and reconstitute for future missions. With lessons learned from the mock exercise, the deployable depot was prepared for future opportunities.

In May 2007, members of the deployable team took their operation overseas for the first time to South Korea where they were part of a limited user evaluation for the Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration sponsored by the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Advanced Systems and Concepts. Performing Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point operations, the deployable team processed over 140 trucks, eight seavans and almost 140 air pallets equating to more than two million pounds of cargo.

The deployable team headed back to the Pacific Rim to Okinawa, Japan in Spring 2008 for a Joint Military User Assessment. While on site in Okinawa, the team was instrumental in opening up a detachment, now part of DLA Distribution Yokosuka, Japan, to support military customers on the island of Okinawa.

In the fall of 2008, Hurricanes Gustav and Ike hit the Southern Gulf area.

(Continued on page 12.)

DLA
DISTRIBUTION
EXPEDITIONARY:
AFGHANISTAN IN
PHOTOS







DLA

Distribution and its distribution centers provided support to the relief efforts by providing comfort kits, meals and water. Along with them, the deployable team executed its first deployment to the affected region. On Sept. 11 of that year, the team helped the Federal Emergency Management Agency set up a National

Logistics Staging Area at Fort Sam Houston, near San Antonio, Texas. That site was later moved to Sequin, Texas and Beaumont, Texas. As the situation became clearer, the team helped set up additional sites to distribute food, water, ice and other supplies to people in the region.

Ultimately, the team ended up with personnel supporting two sites simultaneously in Texas processing over 4,000 trucks of much needed supplies, including over 30 million meals.

The deployable team maintains readiness through continuous training, exercises, and when called on, assists with distribution center workload surges.



An Australian transport vehicle with the 17th CSS Brigade, Australian Defense Forces, delivering subsistence to the troops in the field, is being managed by the Defense Distribution Expeditionary Depot during Talisman Saber. Photo by: United States Marine Corps Maj. A.J. Chotkowski.

The team went “down under” in the Summer of 2009 to participate in Exercise Talisman Saber. The two-week long exercise was a bilateral command post and field-training exercise designed to maintain a high level of interoperability between U.S. and Australian forces, while also supporting increased flexibility and readiness in order to maintain regional security. This exercise allowed the deployable team to further assess and perfect DLA’s deployable capability outside the continental United States – a concept of increasing interest to DLA’s key customers and stakeholders.

Four years after its initial standup and marking a historical

moment in DLA history, that same deployable capability, now called DLA Distribution Expeditionary, was placed in the heart of contingency operations in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The task -- stand up a distribution capability to receive, store and issue DLA materiel and reduce the reliance on strategic airlift.

In February 2010, the Secretary of Defense approved CENTCOM’s Request for Forces directing DLA to establish expeditionary capability forward in Kandahar. Soon after, plans for personnel, equipment, transportation and construction of the in-country distribution capability began.



Heavy equipment, vehicles, shelter, Nestainers and pallets containing stock materiel for both air and surface modes of shipment were processed and subsequently shipped to the expeditionary unit's destination.

In early May, civilians from distribution centers in New Cumberland, Pa., Texarkana, Texas and Tracy, Calif., prepared for their deployment by attending training sessions at the Unit Deployment Center in Winchester, Va., operated by the Army Corps of Engineers. There, the employees completed pre-deployment certification and theater-specific training, met medical qualification requirements, and received uniforms and equipment.

Heavy equipment, vehicles, shelter, Nestainers and pallets containing stock materiel for both air and surface modes of shipment were processed and subsequently shipped to the expeditionary unit's destination.

The team participated in a Rehearsal of Concept, or ROC, drill along with key senior DLA Distribution leadership. The ROC drill outlined the detailed plans for the incipient distribution capability.

Early May also found the initial liaison element of DLA Distribution Expeditionary deploying to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, ahead of the main body. There, they met with key DLA team members, Army logistics and transportation personnel and contractors who would be key players in providing assistance in moving the air-shipped equipment from Kuwait to Afghanistan. Meetings were also held with enterprise partners, DLA Disposition Services, to identify

and requisition potential supplies which had been turned in by the military, for the arriving team.

In late May, additional Expeditionary liaison officers arrived in Afghanistan to begin the on-site preparations to establish the distribution capability. The team met with North Atlantic Treaty Organization and U.S. military entities involved in Afghanistan operations, observed the contractor's work on the distribution facility site and ultimately welcomed the next three waves of Expeditionary unit team members.

(Continued on next page.)



The team began receiving and taking possession of their equipment moving into Afghanistan via air and truck.

In Mid July, the team made up of 43 highly-skilled civilians had arrived in theater.

The Distribution Operations Center, communications suite and Distribution Standard System, or DSS, support tents were put in place. Container loads of material had been received and processed into stock where it remained in shipping containers serving as warehouses.



In Afghanistan, an expeditionary team member verifies receipt of material.



DLA's expeditionary unit offloads supplies destined for Warfighters in country.

The Expeditionary unit's heavy equipment, material handling equipment, light towers and generators were tested and put into operation. Force protection and life support were put in place for the team.

With stock consisting of over 515 NSNs arranged in location order in seavan containers and labeled with DSS barcodes, 100 percent inventory conducted, the distribution capability became a reality and on July 28, the Expeditionary unit saw its first Materiel Release Order, or MRO, drop. Over 130 MRO's were picked, packed, and released for shipment.

During the course of the next several months, while fulfilling requisitions, the Expeditionary team continued to build the distribution capability from the ground up building portable shelters used for housing, administrative and warehousing requirements.



DLA Distribution Expeditionary erects portable shelters to house personnel, supplies and equipment.

Since the first MRO drop, DLA Distribution expeditionary has processed approximately 4,000 items such as repair parts, kit assemblies, subassemblies, clothing reparable consumable items required for maintenance support of equipment and construction materials in theater supporting primarily United States Army and Marine Corps customers.

“Our expeditionary team hit the ground running in Afghanistan and didn’t stop,” said United States Navy Supply Corps Rear Adm. Tom Traaen, DLA Distribution’s commanding officer. “Their efforts significantly changed the logistics

infrastructure in Afghanistan for the better. This capability became a huge enabler by reducing strategic airlift and providing parts support across the country and has truly made a difference for the Warfighter.”

This distribution capability is part of a long-term plan for a more permanent warehouse in Afghanistan. \$20 million in military construction has already been approved for the warehouse and the contract to perform the mission awarded.

Today, DLA Distribution employees are on the ground preparing

the operation for transition to contractor in early 2011. As the contractor begins full operation, DLA Distribution will have a continuing government activity, or CGA, on site to monitor day-to-day operations.

“This has truly been an evolution for our deployable capability,” said Traaen. What was an idea many years ago designed primarily to support humanitarian relief efforts inside the continental United States, has grown to a capability that strategic planners are strongly considering during operational and war planning phases and looking at DLA to provide.”



DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas: Working for freedom

Creating efficiencies in inventory planning, storage, and distribution is critical to DLA Distribution's mission of supporting the readiness and sustainment of America's Warfighters. DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, is contributing to that mission with its tailored logistics support to Corpus Christi Army Depot, or CCAD, and other major customers, as well as through its protection of employees and its customer's assets through its "safety first" mentality, and upcoming expansion of mission.

DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, serves as the primary wholesale distribution point for major components to support helicopter repair missions for DoD and Foreign Military Sales customers worldwide. Its mission is to receive, store, pack, preserve, issue and arrange transportation for assigned supplies and equipment as directed by DLA and Service Inventory Control Point Item Managers.

Items processed by the distribution center include repair parts for principal end items such as small aircraft and helicopters, avionics, electronics, industrial, petroleum, chemical, radioactive and other hazardous materials. DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, performs responsibilities as the Responsible Property Officer for all assets in storage. Other services provided by the center include loading and unloading helicopters and other priority cargo from C-17, C-5A, C-141, and C-130 aircraft

operated by the Air Mobility Command and local delivery of aircraft components and other items to designated customers.

Kitting operations

Key in DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas' tailored support to customers, the organization began its kitting initiative specifically to support CCAD, the only premier Department of Defense Center for Industrial and Technical Excellence for Aviation Maintenance, including maintenance repair requirements in support of Army Aviation. The kitting builds allow the organization to provide repair parts in one single container rather than CCAD receiving separate pieces and parts through various shipments.

DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, and CCAD have formed a unique partnership in support of CCAD's "Lean Line Production" program through the creation of a "one stop shop," with DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, providing total parts packages and direct delivery to local maintenance shops. These measures assist CCAD in its ongoing efforts to cut costs and streamline their maintenance programs, by ensuring that it has the exact parts and tools needed during the helicopter repair process. DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, has a program in place to track CCAD demand patterns for retail items, restocking items according to demand, allowing the customer to save time

and money.

According to DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, commander United States Army Lt. Col. Bernard Warrington, Jr., "Our kit building operation allows us to provide our Army, Navy, and Air Force customers with their maintenance repair materiel parts in 'a single container.' This enables our organization to provide Warfighter Support Enhancements to Army, Navy and Air Force rotary wing aviation maintainers worldwide who ultimately enhance their leader's training and mission readiness."

DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, has recently increased its kitting support to seven different mission design series aircraft within the four military services, providing more than 181 different types of pre-assembled hardware kits designed to support airframe and component programs. Additionally, DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, builds maintenance aviation materiel kits for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Safety First

It takes more than millions of sq. feet of warehouse space, Materiel Handling Equipment, commercial carriers, and intricate transportation routes and schedules for DLA Distribution to meet its goal of providing effective and efficient support to military customers worldwide. Another important part of the equation is the employees. DLA Distribution



Corpus Christi relies on those employees to be healthy and safe in order to successfully meet its mission of support to the Warfighter daily.

To reinforce the emphasis on safety, DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, actively engages the workforce in safety awareness activities, which include monthly safety meetings and training, morning meetings, weekly safety topic and training conducted by supervisors, safety handouts, safety stand-down meetings, special guest speakers and visual queues. Additionally, citing a link between a healthy workforce and a safe workforce, Warrington has implemented an Annual Employee Wellness Day as well as a workforce-wide fitness challenge.

These efforts have resulted in DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, which prides itself on safety

accountability touting its slogan “Safety is everyone’s responsibility,” receiving recognition for its efforts by the Contractor Safety Council of the Coastal Bend, which presented the organization with a safety award in the category “Most Improved for Calendar Year 2009” earlier in the year.

HAZMAT transfer

DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas, is also busy working through the latest expansion of its mission. The Base Realignment and Closure directive of 2005 directed that the supply, storage and distribution of hazardous materiel function currently being performed by CCAD transition to DLA Distribution Corpus Christi, Texas. As a result of the directive, experts from the Defense Logistics Agency and the United States Army recently held their first implementation meeting to discuss

the transfer and develop a plan for the way forward.

Members from DLA, Aviation Missile Command, or AMCOM, and CCAD, met at the distribution center to gain a common understanding of the functions and processes of the mission and how they interface within the overall CCAD maintenance requirement process.

The February transfer will include the 63 contractor personnel who currently perform the mission.

“Our organization prides itself on understanding customer value-added requirements, and finding ways to optimize performance, lean waste, lower cost, and improve quality and transportation. We always remember: the ultimate goal is to provide the right materiel, at the right place in support of the Nation’s most important asset—The Warfighter!” said Warrington.



Spotlight on: “Conclusions – An Important Step in Action Planning” – A DLA Distribution culture update

The Defense Logistics Agency’s culture survey provides the organization with the opportunity to identify areas for improvement based on the insights of employees across the enterprise. The leaders across the enterprise use the results to guide them to key areas to focus on improving their cultures.

As DLA Distribution is approaching the time when the organization receives the results of the 2010 launch of the DLA Culture Survey, this will trigger another cycle of action planning, so leaders throughout DLA Distribution were recently reminded of a critical first step in the action planning process. That is to conclude or close-out the previous action plan.

DLA Distribution’s process for closing out a culture survey action plan is described below:

Step 1: Identify Action Plan(s)

This is identified as a step because some organizations have both a culture committee action plan and a leadership team action plan. It is important that both groups go through the process of closing out their action plans before beginning a new cycle.

Step 2: Gather the Team for Reflections

If possible, all team members should be present to contribute to the Conclusion process. The goal for this process will be to identify what went well and not so well for the previous action plan. Therefore, the more people who were involved that can contribute their voices to this process the better.

Step 3: Identify Your Short/Mid/Long Term Goals and Targets

Clearly identify what the expectations were for the plan. What were the overall goals to be reached and what targets were



DLA Distribution’s process for closing out a culture survey action plan

established to quantify the goals? Ensure that the goals are categorized into short, mid, and long term goals and targets. This is important because it helps clearly assess results and identify what should be carried forward to the next plan.

Step 4: Identify Your Short/Mid/Long Term Actions

Make clear what actions were undertaken to achieve these goals and targets. These should also be identified by Short/Mid/Long term.

Step 5: Identify Results of the Actions

Identify the results of actions through both quantitative and qualitative data. Sources of data will include the Culture Survey results, performance data related to the specific expectations (goals and targets), and any stories people can share that demonstrate how the actions have improved the intended area of the organization.

Step 6: Identify what should be stopped/Improved/carried forward

Compare the results to the expectations and begin to make an assessment on what actions should be stopped, improved, or carried forward. This information should become part of the lessons

learned and used for the development of the next actions plans.

Step 7: Document lessons learned

Establish a formal documentation of this process through lessons learned. This becomes a key input for the next action plans and helps the organization engage in continuous improvement of culture.

Step 8: Celebrate/Reward/Recognize

Initially the celebration, rewards, and recognition should be for the team itself. Then the lessons learned should be shared with the entire organization and those that contributed to the success recognized by the organization.

“There are many benefits to conducting a formal conclusion of a culture action plan,” says John Destalo, culture champion and member of the DLA Distribution Organization Development team. “It gives participants an opportunity to reflect; it formally captures lessons learned so they can be used in the future; it gives team members and the organization an opportunity to celebrate successes and recognize each other and it helps the members of the organization close-the-loop and see clearly the connections between the survey (assessment), actions, and organizational improvements.”

“Strategically Speaking”

Donnie Wright, material examiner and identifier work leader, DLA Distribution Anniston, Ala.

Warfighter Support Enhancement

The mission of DLA Distribution Anniston’s “S” Division is to efficiently and effectively perform receipt selection, preservation, packaging, packing, and storage, which includes hazardous and radioactive material, re-warehousing, container assembly and manufacture, unit and set assembly, disassembly and manufacture, made to order kitting, and standard order kitting and supporting parts with intra-depot movement material. Our general focus is the continuous and prompt advancement of assets, ensuring that all material is identified, receipted, and stored in a timely manner in order for it to be readily available to our main customers, the Warfighter.



Workforce development

At DLA Distribution Anniston, Ala., the Command Office holds all leadership to the highest of standards. My supervisor and I were personally tasked with developing a plan to alleviate the backlog and create a sustainment process. To meet our goals, we received assistance from an outside source in addition to our general knowledge to help streamline the process. Once we were able to train everyone on the new processes and standards, we were able to significantly decrease our backlog.

Customer engagement

As the work leader, dealing with a diverse group of people is a mainstay. My daily interactions include truck drivers, warehouse workers, the Inventory Branch, and other entities. I am the point of contact that provides feedback to customer complaints that deal with shortages, overages, shipment of wrong material, and maintenance production. My overall goal as a leader is to ensure that the customers are taken care of diligently and their issues resolved.

Continuous process improvement

Using the motto that “nothing is perfect,” I try to encourage the workforce to think of different ways to improve their processes. We have been trying to streamline what we do to help decrease how many times we handle material that we receive. We have set up processes to make it easier for the worker to examine and identify the material. Prior to minor adjustments, workers were handling material four to five times more than necessary. This helped to free up valuable time and alleviate non-productive actions. We continue to encourage everyone to break down all processes by steps and try to eliminate any redundant movements.

If the material does not reach the servicemen and women correctly, we are jeopardizing the lives and well being of all that are associated with that item. Knowing that my part is just as valuable as others to the troops makes waking up every day to come to work special.

Donnie Wright
DLA Distribution Anniston, Ala.

***To read this month’s complete “Strategically Speaking,” be sure to visit
DLA Distribution on the web at <http://www.ddc.dla.mil/>.***

**WE ARE AMERICA'S
COMBAT LOGISTICS
SUPPORT AGENCY.
WE ARE DLA.**

COMING IN FUTURE ISSUES

DLA Distribution one year in review

DLA Distribution support to Air Force customers