



News Release

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Former Memphis depot wins Secretary of Defense environmental award

Memphis, Tenn – (April 17, 2009) – In an announcement made by Under Secretary for Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, John J. Young, Jr., the restoration program at the former Memphis depot, Memphis, Tenn. is acknowledged as among the best in the Department of Defense, or DOD, by the Secretary of Defense and will receive the 2009 Environmental Restoration award for outstanding work by an installation in DOD environmental programs in an official ceremony June 3.

“Clean up efforts at the former Memphis depot have always been aimed at protecting human health and the environment in a timely, cost-efficient and responsive manner, said Michael Dobbs, chief, Environmental Safety and Occupational Health for the Defense Distribution Center, or DDC. “As we work to complete the final stages of cleanup, I can think of no better recognition as the site is transferred for community reuse.”

Dobbs attributes the success of the clean up efforts, and this prestigious recognition of the former Depot’s restoration program, to the entire team involved in the restoration process. “This is a joint effort between the Defense Logistics Agency, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, our environmental contractors and members of the community serving on the former depot’s Restoration Advisory Board,” said Dobbs.

The Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards program recognizes installations, teams and individuals each year for exceptional work in DOD environmental programs. In addition to environmental restoration, other categories include natural resources conservation, cultural resources management, environmental quality and pollution prevention.

In selecting the former Memphis depot for this award, DOD honors environmental restoration efforts on a number of levels over the past year. During this period, DDC overcame cleanup challenges and accelerated efforts, implemented innovative technologies, addressed cleanup issues between DOD and other entities, and promoted significant accomplishments made by the RAB; all of which contributed to reducing risk to human health and environment.

A key component of this success is the achievement of cleanup goals through the use of thermally-enhanced soil vapor extraction, which effectively removed more than 15,000 pounds of contaminants from the soils at the site. In addition to meeting established goals ahead of schedule, the process saved taxpayers more than \$2.5 million.

Since 1998, 414 acres – more than two thirds – of the former Memphis depot have been found environmentally suitable for transfer and returned to productive community reuse.

In 2008, the environmental restoration program made significant progress toward restoring the environment in order to transfer the remaining 228 acres for community reuse that will assist in revitalizing the surrounding community.

For more information, please contact Stacy Umstead, DDC Public Affairs Office, at (717) 770-2880.

For more than a decade, the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) has been offering best value supply chain solutions through a broad range of services including storage, distribution, customized kits and specialized packaging as well as transportation support and technology development. Customers include the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and other agencies. Headquartered in New Cumberland, Pa., DDC operates a global network of 25 distribution centers that employ nearly 8,000 people worldwide. DDC is a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency.

