

# DDC Commander's Column

By Colonel Michael J. Lally, United States Army

Greetings, Defense Distribution Center! It is a great honor and privilege to serve with you. The DDC Team has a reputation for excellence in support of the Warfighter in every corner of the world.

My arrival to the community and command went smoothly. Moreover, the Change of Command Ceremony was a superb event. I want to recognize the outstanding assistance provided by the headquarters and installation personnel for their tremendous efforts. My family and I thank you for making this a memorable event.

I want to take this opportunity to share some of my thoughts and vision for the future.

The centerpiece of the Defense Distribution Center and its 24 - soon to be 26 - distribution depots throughout the United States, Europe, Kuwait, Guam, Japan and Korea are the military and civilian members. Your creativity, expertise, hard work and dedication make this organization successful!

- To remain successful we must continue to train our military and civilian personnel and grow leaders.
- We must treat everyone with dignity and respect, and create a healthy command climate.
- I believe that families are critical to the well being of our workforce and key to our success as an organization. Moreover, we should encourage our personnel to volunteer to support their community and installation.

The Defense Distribution Center has a strong reputation as a trained and ready organization.

- Readiness will continue to be our #1 Priority. We must ensure our ability to meet worldwide customer requirements and be focused on the Warfighter.
- To serve the customer we must determine customer needs and enhance customer satisfaction through responsive service and process improvements.
- We will continue our efforts to improve the timeliness, efficiency, effectiveness and security of distribution capabilities through planning and execution.
- Information Management is critical to our success. Timely information is key to

decision making and providing reliable support to our customers. We require a system architecture that supports integrated information management systems and to promote visibility of our requirements, inventory, and shipments.

Everyone must strive to create and to maintain a safe work environment. Leaders need to provide the resources and emphasis on the safety program, but everyone must be actively involved in order to maintain safe working conditions.

I believe in a values based unit where Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage are central to everything we do now and in the future.

Lastly, I ask each of you to look around your section or area and think about what you can do to improve things.

Provide your good ideas to your supervisor or leader. We should all strive to improve our section, team, work area, unit or community.

Around the world the DDC Team has many initiatives working simultaneously. These include support to contingency operations; forward stock positioning and opening four new distribution centers in Italy,

Kuwait, Guam and Korea; improving inventory accuracy; reducing costs; A-76; improving processes to better support our customers; bringing on new information technology and management information systems; collaborating with USTRANSCOM; and workforce recruitment and retention to name a few. Each of these initiatives is a considerable challenge. Success can only be achieved through teamwork with proactive and creative men and women.

My family and I are excited as we start this tour and look forward to being active members of the Command and Community. I look forward to working with you as we provide timely and quality support to our Armed Forces around the world through an efficient, effective and innovative distribution system.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication!



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