

DDC Opens 23RD Distribution Depot In Sigonella, Italy

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs

*Benvenuti
a bordo!*

In a ceremony conducted on March 30, 2004, the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Commander, Brigadier General Kathleen M. Gainey, United States Army, unveiled the DDC flag signifying DDC's presence in the Mediterranean and officially opening the Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella, Italy (DDSI).



DDC Commander, Brigadier General Kathleen M. Gainey, USA, unveils the DDC organization flag establishing DDSI.

On what was a very overcast day in the Mediterranean, attendees to the ceremony observed a traditional DDC activation ceremony with participation by the host Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Sigonella (NASSIG), Captain Timothy Davison, United States Navy. Captain Davison spoke to the employees who would become part of DDSI, "NASSIG Supply, you've actually become too successful. As a Naval Air Station, we are not structured to provide support to all the military units in the southern European region; you've had to ask the 'big guy' to step in further. With the subject matter expertise, logistical core competency and vast resources a joint organization the size of Defense Logistics Agency brings with it, also comes opportunity. Customers from all four military service components in the European and even the Southwest Asia theater will now benefit directly from this transition. Many of you that have made the combined NASSIG-DLA effort so successful while working for NAS Sigonella will be crossing the fence today, and will join

DDSI Employees Learn What DLA and DDC is All About

Orientation Provided to New DDSI Employees

On March 30, 2004, new employees of Defense Distribution Depot Sigonella, Italy (DDSI) attended an orientation session provided by the Defense Distribution Center (DDC). The purpose of the meeting was to welcome everyone to the Defense Logistics Agency team and introduce their new organization.

Acting Commander, Ms. Denise Cordeiro-Bennett, opened the session by welcoming the workforce, comprised of military, civilian, and local nationals, and provided her insight on distribution, the future of DDSI, and the challenges that lie ahead.

The employees viewed the Defense Logistics Agency's (DLA) "Round the Clock, Round the World" video providing them with an overview of who DLA is, where DLA is located, and what role DLA plays in supporting the Warfighter.

Employees were given welcome packets containing a copy of the video, the DLA Director's welcome letter, which was translated into Italian for the local nationals, as well as, other DLA and DDC informational items.

Brigadier General Kathleen Gainey, United States Army, Commander, Defense Distribution Center, provided a briefing on her command philosophies and priorities to include the importance of safety in the workplace. "Safety is a number one priority at the DDC. Your health and well-being is important to me and to this organization. We will do everything to provide for a safe working

environment, but I want each of you to be responsible for identifying and reporting potential safety hazards."

After the General's briefing, Ms. Stacy Umstead, DDC Public Affairs Specialist, provided the DDC Command Overview which explained the DDC distribution network, its mission and services provided, and how DDSI will play an important role in supporting the Warfighter. "DDSI will play an integral part of the DDC Distribution Network. By forward stocking items at DDSI, combined with the DDSI workforce meeting one-day processing goals, the Warfighters, and those transiting the Mediterranean will get the right item, at the right price, and at the right time," said Umstead.

The entire orientation program was translated in Italian for the local nationals by Mr. Vincenzo Ingoglia and Mr. Maurizio Saia, and was well received by all employees.



DDC's newest employees, members of the DDSI.