

Safety Depends on Teamwork at DDSP

By Deb Fetterolf, DDSP Safety Office

Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA (DDSP), is proud that its employees pull together as a team to do great deeds, and one DDSP employee

between two carts while retrieving gas cans that had fallen off a cart. The carts weigh about 800 pounds when empty and travel the towline imbedded in the floor of

the EDC to deliver loads of materiel to specified locations. Dickey's coworkers responded right away and used the emergency stop buttons to turn off the power to the towline moving the carts, then telephoned for medical assistance. Thanks to the quick thinking of his coworkers, Dickey only received bruises to his legs and his coworkers were presented with an On-The-Spot Safety Award from the Safety Office.

"This group worked together as a team, acting quickly and very appropriately, to



DDSP Distribution Operations employees (left to right): Tracy Burton, James Clark, Leslie Ware, Steven Waters, and Charlie Matter received an On-The-Spot Safety Award for acting quickly to help a coworker in trouble.

Monthly Safety Inspection Checklist is a Great Tool

By Deb Fetterolf, DDSP Safety Office

Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA (DDSP), has developed a new safety tool to improve workplace safety. The tool is the Monthly Safety Inspection Checklist. DDSP Commander CAPT Robert Ritchie, SC, USN, asked the DDSP Safety Monitor Program to initiate the use of the checklist to improve the safety of DDSP's working environment.

The Monthly Safety Inspection Checklist, available on the DDC Safety website, <https://ddcnet.ddc.dla.mil/ddca/safety>, helps to identify hazards throughout the work areas. The checklist has five sections: General, Fire Safety, Warehouse Areas, Battery Charging Area, and Additional Comments. These sections cover topics from proper lighting to properly marked fire exits and condition of house-keeping to condition of charger cables.

In partnership with supervisors, Safety Monitors will do their monthly building inspections using

these checklists. Upon coordination with the area supervisor, the monitors identify and implement workplace safety improvements and can call in items to the work order desk to be repaired. They also monitor the progress of such repairs.

The completed checklists will be filed and maintained by the monitors. Monitors will also periodically switch from their designated areas to inspect other locations, giving them the opportunity to share best practices.

These Safety Monitor inspections will not replace formal safety inspections, but will greatly assist by checking on common and correctable safety problems and maintaining continuous focus on a safe working environment and safe work practices. "The Safety Inspection Checklist is a great way to work safe, work smart, and to prevent accidents in the workplace before they happen," said CAPT Ritchie.



Carts traveling along the automated towline in DDSP's Eastern Distribution Center.

do what was needed to stop a bad situation and prevent a worse injury. That is the key to safety: working smartly as individual members of a team, looking out for each other and ensuring a safe working environment," said DDSP Commander CAPT Robert Ritchie, SC, USN.

The Safety Office continually reminds employees to stay clear of the automated towline carts, a powerful tool for production, but one that can also cause injury if not appropriately respected. If one should need to access the towline, the Safety Office recommends using the emergency stop button to halt the carts. This will allow workers to continue without harm.