

BSM Release 2 Site Visit to DDC

As the Business Systems Modernization (BSM) work continues, Defense Distribution Center (DDC) staff gather regularly to ensure that all DDC Directorates are familiar with BSM Release 1 in production and plans for Releases 1.1 and 2.

Staff from Logistics Operations, Stock Positioning, Inventory, and the Customer Contact Center met in March with BSM staff to discuss a variety of new initiatives that improve interactions between BSM and the Distribution Standard System (DSS).



Mike Scott, the DLA Process Owner for Planning, addresses the group during the site visit.

BSM is a key component of DLA's transformation that will allow the Agency to achieve its goal of providing worldclass logistics in support of America's Warfighters. When fully implemented, BSM will provide data to improve stock positioning, inventory accuracy, visibility for customers, and improved information and opportunities for reverse logistics.

"The initial release, Release One, of BSM on July 31, 2002 was designed to incorporate a small portion—approximately 5 percent—of the DLA workload and DLA personnel," said Mike Yost, DDC BSM Director. "This strategy allowed for learning without creating too much change too quickly. It also

allowed for a period of discovery to prove out BSM systems and concepts; provided the opportunity to let the BSM system stabilize; and provided DLA with valuable data to determine the optimal approach to rolling out BSM to the rest of the Agency without adversely impact DLA's ability to service our customers."

"Based on the experiences gained from Release One," Yost said, "DLA has modified the originally proposed roll out strategy for BSM." Additional functionality will be incrementally added to BSM in Releases—1.1 (Battle Dress Uniforms (BDUs) and Subsistence). Besides allowing the program to reach near 100% functionality in a demonstration environment, these new releases will also allow us to turn off our Defense Integrated Subsistence Management System (DISIMS) legacy system early.

In Release Two, available in July 2004, BSM will be almost completely operational. Roll out of this full functionality for the remainder of the items managed by DLA will be accomplished in "Roll-Out Groupings," constrained only by the rate and capacity to train users, prepare the

infrastructure, and convert the data and expected to be completed by January 2006.

To help ensure that DDC requirements are fully integrated into the blueprinting for Release 2, DDC recently hosted functional subject matter experts from various DDC HQ staff elements to dialogue with the BSM "Process Owners" for the core processes of Planning, Order Fulfillment, Finance, and Tech/Quality. The session proved to be very informative for all participants and included such topics as disposals; National Inventory Management Systems (NIMS); returns; hub and spoke; Demand Forecast Units; shelf life; safety stock; and supplier collaboration.

JV Gray, head of table, a member of DDC's Logistics Operations Division discusses BSM issues for some of the DDC's 22 distribution centers.

