

DDC Offers E-Learning Opportunity to Leaders



LCDR Elizabeth Beaty, SC, USN, DDSP's Distribution Administration/Operations Officer accesses the Situational Leadership module of the Ninth House Network training program. Because participants could complete the program using their own PCs, DLA and DDC were able to eliminate travel costs for the training.

To better support the Warfighter, Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Commander BG Kathleen M. Gainey, USA, encourages DDC employees to seek ways to improve their professional skills. To aid in this effort, DLA Director VADM Keith W. Lippert, SC, USN, made the Ninth House Network (NHN), an interactive e-learning program, available to DDC leaders.

BG Gainey describes NHN as “a cost-effective, accessible and continuous learning experience.”

The NHN training program targets leaders and managers, guiding them through a series of training modules that allow them to participate in simulated exercises that demonstrate how their decisions would affect the outcomes in real-life situations. “This is a very innovative method,” said Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Penn. (DDSP), Distribution Administration/Operations Officer LCDR Elizabeth Beaty, SC, USN. “The program allowed you to make decisions and see what happened to the characters.”

Throughout the training, participants are able to obtain guidance from the “Instant Advice” feature, helping them to further enhance their problem solving skills. “I enjoyed the various mock scenarios throughout the program and their examples of problem solving were easy to follow,” said Bob Mahan of Defense Distribution Center San Joaquin, Calif. (DDJC).

Using CDs and the Internet, NHN participants were able to complete the 19 training sessions at their own pace. “The training modules focus on six core competencies: leadership, management, business essentials, communication, team-building and project management,” said Kim McDonald, DLA Human Resources Specialist (Workforce Development).

To date, 215 DDC personnel have taken the course. At DDC, all the Depot Commanders, Deputies, Continuing Governmental Authority (CGA) lead civilians and site managers have been selected to participate in the course. Each distribution center also has the option of enrolling supervisors.

“Professional development and self study are key to enhancing our knowledge,” said BG Gainey. For more information on training opportunities, contact your local training coordinator.

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