Supply chain commanders discuss challenges ahead

By Dan Bender
DLA Land and Maritime
Public Affairs Office

A variety of challenges will face the Defense Logistics Agency in the next decade, four supply chain commanders said Aug. 25 during a panel discussion that kicked off the final day of the DLA Enterprise Suppliers Conference and Exhibition, in Columbus.


The discussion was moderated by DLA Director of Logistics Operations Army Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar. Each of the supply chain commanders provided a brief overview of their supply chain command and how they support the warfighter. During a brief question-and-answer period at the end of their presentations, the commanders were asked to discuss the biggest challenge facing their respective supply chains in the next decade. The officers all agreed the overarching challenges the agency will face are pricing and budget pressures.

Chambers, who oversees support in the areas of food, clothing and textiles, medicine and building supplies, said pricing will be a big challenge, along with eliminating fraud in the food supply chain.

Local Marine Reserve unit pauses to remember loss of 23 brothers

By Marine Corps Capt. Nathan Braden
Marine Forces Reserve

Family members, local supporters and former Marines of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, paid tribute to the 22 Marines and one sailor who were killed in action during the unit’s deployment to Iraq in 2005 with a memorial wreath laying service Aug. 21.

The ceremony took place in front of a large granite memorial wall at the Naval Operations Support Center Columbus, near Rickenbacker International Airport.

“These men epitomize the selfless sacrifice that Marines have been making to this country for over 200 years,” said Maj. Jonathan Holder, Inspector-Instructor for Company L.

The hour-long service included a rifle salute, the playing of “Taps” and a roll call. A bell toll rang out as each man’s name was read aloud.

Several speakers who knew the men provided remarks before the laying of the wreaths in front of the memorial wall.

“This men are patriots. They gave their lives. No one took them,” said Gunnery Sgt. Shawn Delgado (Ret.), who served as the company’s operations chief during the 2005 deployment. “They sacrificed for...”
**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Retirees luncheon set for Sept. 9**

The annual DSCC Retirees Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9, at the Berwick Party House. The cost is $814 per person.

The guest speaker will be Ann Fisher, host of “All Sides” on WOSU AM Radio.

Retirees who are interested in attending and have not been notified in the past should call Virginia Clarke at 614-855-1757 for reservations no later than Friday, Sept. 3.

**Entries sought for talent showcase**

The DLA Land and Maritime Culture Council is looking for acts for its 2010 Talent Showcase, which will be held Sept. 30 in the Building 20 Auditorium from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Associates in DLA Land and Maritime and DLA tenant agencies on the DSCC installation are invited to participate. Talent categories include singing, dancing, comedy, musical instruments, drama readings and poetry. Sign-ups will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 7-8 in the Building 20 cafeteria. The Talent Showcase is limited to 15 acts. For more information, call Sharon L. Fritz at 614-692-7496.

**Ohio department searching for vets**

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services is searching for Ohio veterans with two simple messages: “Anyone who wears or has ever worn a U.S. military uniform is a veteran,” and “Your service may be worth more than you think.”

The department is asking veterans to call 1-877-OHIO-VET to get connected to their county veterans service office and their benefits.

Ohio’s veteran population crosses all adult age, geographic and socioeconomic categories and many of them are not aware of the benefits they have earned with their military service.

These benefits may enable a veteran to pay for higher education, purchase a home or get help treating a medical condition. Ohio veterans are eligible for these and a multitude of other benefits.

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**OBITUARIES**

**John E. Klein**

John E. Klein, 71, of Hebron, died Aug. 11 at his residence. Mr. Klein was a U.S. Army veteran and a Newark Air Force Base retiree.

**Calvin Doyle Morehart**

Calvin Doyle Morehart, 83, of Canal Winchester, died Aug. 19 at Grant Medical Center. Mr. Morehart was a U.S. Army and Marine Corps veteran of World War II and was retired from DCSC.

**William Reed Peugh**

William Reed Peugh, 75, of Groveport, died Aug. 16. Mr. Peugh was a U.S. Navy veteran and was retired from DCSC.

**Robert “Bob” Trivett**

Robert “Bob” Trivett, 53, of Pataskala, died Aug. 22 at Grant Medical Center. Mr. Trivett was an associate in Maritime Supplier Operations at DLA Land and Maritime.

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**Commanders**

Continued from page 1

Sully area. He described Troop Support as one of the most critical and important missions in DLA because of the basic life-sustaining supplies it provides.

Richardson, whose supply chain provides repair parts for predominantly Army, Marine Corps and Navy weapon systems, said the drawdown of troops in Iraq will mean less demand for that support. Cost efficiency and how to become more efficient in supporting the warfighter will be the challenges facing DLA Land and Maritime, he said. He also thanked DLA’s industrial partners for their support of warfighters.

“If we call for an expedite, we know you’ll work hard to get the job done and help the warfighter,” he said.

Griffith, who primarily oversees aviation spare parts, said changes in requirements for aging aircraft will be a big challenge for his agency, along with maintaining the workforce as business opportunities expand. Seeking opportunities to be better aligned with customers and suppliers to improve efficiency will also be necessary, he added.

DLA is uniquely positioned with its procurement capabilities in that if one item crosses multiple supply chains or weapon systems, it can be put on one acquisition vehicle, Griffith said. “That’s an opportunity for us to be more cost efficient,” he said.

Kunkel, whose agency is responsible for procuring all fuel and energy needs for the warfighter, said pricing issues are a big challenge for his agency due to the sometimes volatile nature of the energy markets.

“We don’t deal in raw crude oil,” he said. “We deal with the refined products, so we’re somewhat beholden to what the industry can bring to us.”

The sources and cost of extracting oil from the earth, along with refining capacity and unexpected world events that can quickly affect the cost of fuel are all factors that can impact the cost of fuel procurement, he said.

DLA Energy is actively looking into renewable and alternative energy sources to try to reduce the country’s reliance on fossil fuels. “DLA Energy has been and will continue to be a critical enabler for our fighting forces worldwide,” he said.

DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson also noted pricing and budget challenges in his opening remarks, saying the Defense Department business environment is changing from the past decade.

“We need to hold a high level of effectiveness, but we also need to improve efficiency as financial stress increases on the Defense Department budget,” he said.

“You can count on us operating differently than we have in the past,” he added. “We will be focusing on getting the absolute best price for the material we are buying.”
DLA Land and Maritime recognizes select suppliers

By Dan Bender
DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

A total of 159 companies from across the United States were recognized for their support of the military during an awards ceremony held Aug. 23 during this year’s Defense Logistics Agency Enterprise Suppliers Conference and Exhibition.

The award winners were recognized based on evaluations of their timeliness and quality of product based on the Defense Logistics Agency’s Automated Best Value System for performance during 2009. The awards ceremony was held as part of the conference’s opening afternoon program.

Milt Lewis, executive director of contracting and acquisition management at DLA Land and Maritime, said the award winners are the top suppliers out of about 7,000 companies with whom DLA Land and Maritime does business.

“This really is a big deal for us,” Lewis said. “If you’re here being recognized today, you’re part of a very select group.”

There were a total of 42 gold award winners, 71 bronze award winners and 71 bronze award winners, with representatives from 64 suppliers present to accept their awards, Lewis said.

“Thank you for what you do to support our soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines because that’s what it’s all about,” he told the suppliers.

Before beginning the presentations, ceremony emcee Pat McCreay, DLA Land and Maritime procurement analyst, Automated Best Value System, also congratulated the winners.

“This is truly a testament to your devotion to the mission we support at DLA Land and Maritime,” she said.

McCreay then announced the winners, with representatives receiving their award from DLA Land and Maritime Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson, who thanked them for their part in supporting the warfighter.

The companies that were recognized supply a wide range of items to America’s armed forces through DLA and the Department of Defense. Companies that qualify as ABVS winners have met stringent quality and delivery requirements established by DLA.

The ABVS, a computerized system, collects a company’s past performance data and translates into a numeric score, ranging from zero to 100.

To be eligible, companies must have shipped 50 or more contract line items for DLA Land and Maritime during a 12-month period.

To qualify for a gold award, a company must have a perfect score of 100. A score of 99.0 to 99.9 earns a silver award, while a score of 98.0 to 98.9 earns a bronze award.

Awards will be mailed to suppliers who were unable to attend the ceremony.

Also taking place on the first afternoon of the conference was a training, Knowledge and Opportunity training session seminar on “Learning to Do Business with DLA.” The event, sponsored by the DLA Land and Maritime Small Business Programs Office, was an abbreviated version of the office’s two-day TKO seminars held four or five times a year in Columbus.

The session helped suppliers learn about various socioeconomic programs, including set-asides, and become familiar with searching for open solicitations on the DLA Internet Bid Board System and how to submit a quote through the DIBBS quoting process.
Richardson discusses warfighter support at last town hall session

By Dan Bender
DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

In his last town hall meeting with associates, DLA Land and Maritime Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson said he is glad to see Columbus continuing to improve its support to the warfighter.

Richardson, who is leaving for a tour in Iraq this fall, said Columbus is doing “great on the Maritime side” in support of the Navy. He noted that he has spent a lot of time at Navy shipyards and facilities during his year at DLA Land and Maritime.

“We’ve made significant inroads in helping the Navy help themselves,” he said. “We’re happy to have them.”

Support on the Land supply chain side of the house has been great as well, particularly in regard to the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle and other weapon systems, Richardson said.

“Our customer satisfaction is the highest in DLA. That comes from the mouths of the services,” he said.

“You can’t rest on your laurels, though,” he said. “You have to get better to meet their requirements.”

Among major business initiatives coming up are eProcurement and Inventory Management Stock Positioning, which Richardson said “will be a big project for the shipyards.”

The DLA Suppliers Conference and Exhibition, which is in Columbus Aug. 23-25, “will bring in more vendors and suppliers than we normally see,” Richardson said, adding that the conference will be held in Columbus the next two years as well.

“It’s an opportunity for us,” he said. “We’re happy to have them.”

The town hall began with a presentation by Bob Genton, the DLA Installation Support at Columbus deputy site director, on the recertification of the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as a Voluntary Protection Program “Star” site for the next five years.

“It’s an incredible achievement,” Richardson said, noting that DSCC remains the only VPP “Star” site in DLA. “Good on you for making that happen.”

Richardson also recognized Lisa Rutherford with a DLA Superior Civilian Service Award for her efforts while deployed to Iraq from November to June, Operations Support Group associate Beverly Wilson for reaching 40 years of federal service and Maritime Supplier Operations associate Ed Warner for reaching 30 years of service.

Lisa Rutherford, a customer account specialist in Land Customer Operations, was recently recognized by DLA Land and Maritime Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson with a DLA Superior Civilian Service Award for her efforts on her recent deployment.

Rutherford was based at Camp Victory in Baghdad from November to early June as a lead warfighter support representative/universal customer account specialist and was cited for her critical logistical support to the warfighter during the drawdown in Iraq. During her time there, Rutherford was a team leader for DLA warfighter service representatives and liaison officers throughout Iraq. She was responsible for training the WSRs located throughout the Iraq theater of operations, taking individuals of various skill levels and technical backgrounds and forming them into a team that consistently exceeded customer expectations, solved complex materiel logistics and supply chain challenges, and increased operational availability of combat units assigned in the area.

Bob Genton (third from left), the DLA Installation Support at Columbus deputy site director, presents a plaque to DLA Land and Maritime Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson signifying the recertification of the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as a Voluntary Protection Program “Star” site for the next five years. Genton made the presentation during Richardson’s Aug. 11 town hall meeting with associates. Also present were (from left) DLA Land and Maritime Executive Director of Contracting and Acquisition Management Milt Lewis, IFPTE Local 7 vice president Jeff Schmidt, John Fralick of AFGE Local 1148, Tracy Charles of the Child Development Center on the DSCC installation, Amy Manbeck of the DES-C Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Office and DLA Land and Maritime Deputy Commander James McClaugherty.

DSCC installation recertified as VPP ‘Star’ site
Lanthorn receives leadership development scholarship

By Dan Bender
DLA Land and Maritime
Public Affairs Office

A supply planner on the MRAP team in Land Supplier Operations is this year’s winner of the DLA Land and Maritime Leadership Development Association’s Mary L. Saunders Excellence in Leadership Scholarship.

Adam Lanthorn thanked LDA for the $500 scholarship and said it will help him achieve his goal of completing his master’s degree in project management from Grantham University, an online military school, by the end of next year.

“This is a great honor and I appreciate it very much,” he said.

He thanked LDA for its commitment to leadership development and educational opportunities.

Lanthorn, a Centerburg, Ohio, resident who has worked at DLA Land and Maritime for three years, said the biggest opportunity to develop his leadership skills came through helping coach his son’s T-ball team.

“I had to put my management skills to use to develop my crew, even though sometimes they were more interested in picking dandelions and building dirt piles,” he said.

Success is not always in wins or losses, but in learning small things along the way, he said.

“Remember to keep yourself grounded and your expectations realistic,” he stated.

DLA Land and Maritime Deputy Commander James McClaugherthy congratulated Lanthorn and said the scholarship, named after a former DLA Land and Maritime commander, equally celebrates leadership and learning.

LDA president Mitch Canty presented Lanthorn with the scholarship certificate and the LDA Excellence in Leadership coin.

“There were quite a few applicants and they were all qualified, so it was hard to choose this year’s winner,” he said.

The $500 annual scholarship is available to all DLA Land and Maritime associates enrolled in a full- or part-time undergraduate or graduate degree program and who have a minimum GPA of 3.0.

The winner is selected based on completion of an essay on “What Leadership Means to Me,” the exhibition of potential and intention for continued leadership development, and active participation in leadership activities/roles.

LDA is a professional organization dedicated to promoting the development of leadership skills and commitment in the Columbus federal community.

The group’s next scheduled event is a Sept. 15 leadership workshop, sponsored in conjunction with the Maritime Associates Culture Council, featuring Dr. Timothy F. Remmert of Franklin University speaking on “Leadership Style and Its Effect On Organizational Culture and Performance” at 10 a.m. in the Building 20 Buckeye Room, followed by the annual LDA members picnic that same day at 11:30 a.m. in the Weapons Park Pavilion.

For more information concerning LDA and upcoming LDA events, call Canty at 614-692-4310.

New council seeking members to promote associates’ wellness

By Dan Bender
DLA Land and Maritime
Public Affairs Office

The recently formed DLA Land and Maritime Wellness Council is looking for associates who want to make a difference.

The group’s goal is to highlight total wellness issues at work and at home - for all of life. The chairperson is Melanie Schmechel, Enterprise lead auditor in the DLA Land and Maritime Internal Audit Office, and the champions are DLA Enterprise Support at Columbus site director Kenny Youn and Maritime Supplier Operations director Navy Capt. Roland Wadge.

“We promote visibility, recognition and understanding of wellness programs for the DLA Land and Maritime community and foster increased awareness and management of DLA Land and Maritime wellness issues,” Schmechel said.

Although many people might assume the council focuses primarily on physical fitness, Schmechel said the focus is much broader.

“We look at the mental, financial, spiritual and other aspects in terms of the overall wellness of a person,” she said, adding that a wellness-oriented lifestyle encourages habits and behaviors that promote better health and an improved quality of life.

The 10 sub-dimensions of overall wellness are social, occupational, spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, environmental, financial, mental and medical, Schmechel said.

The council recently co-sponsored “The Pursuit of Excellence” seminar with the Employee Assistance Program office and is also making plans to sponsor a weight loss support group for DLA Land and Maritime associates.

Schmechel said the council also wants to promote the many beneficial wellness events and programs already available to DLA Land and Maritime associates.

She noted that a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt project encourages habits and behaviors that promote better health and an improved quality of life. The 10 sub-dimensions of overall wellness are social, occupational, spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, environmental, financial, mental and medical, Schmechel said.

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Retired Army colonel offers advice to Reservists deploying to Iraq

By Army Master Sgt. Dave Johnson
412th Civil Affairs Battalion, Whitehall, Ohio

A retired Army colonel who is the chairman of Military History at the Ohio State University recently spoke to soldiers of the 412th Civil Affairs Battalion, based in Whitehall, about their upcoming deployment to Iraq.

Dr. Peter Mansoor offered some key points of advice for the soon-deploying citizen soldiers about the United States reducing its emphasis on counter-insurgency operations and moving to a peace-keeping mission.


"The primary emphasis going forward: Self-sustainment, security, teaching Iraqis how government works, and providing economic growth without U.S. involvement and U.S. dollars are imperative," Mansoor said.

"The Iraqi government must become self-sustaining," he stated. "Iraqi-led building and reconstruction efforts must be pushed."

"The Iraqi government's thoughts, "No longer 'our projects' or 'joint efforts,' but Iraqi projects with Iraqi security," Long said. "Correct," Mansoor replied. "We must stop injecting U.S. dollars into the Iraqi economy. Self-sustainment is key."

"Teaching local leaders how to function in a democracy, they don't always know how government works," Smith said. "As civil affairs soldiers, we'll be teaching local contractors how to plan projects, acquire funds and ensure quality assurance of the work," he said, adding that trust and teaching are requirements.

"As civil affairs soldiers, the unit's forthcoming civil affairs mission will be a continuation on existing projects."

"Once trust is re-established, the inner-workings of government are focus points for civil affairs teams."

"Another major element of civil affairs presence in Iraq is teaching. Teaching local leaders and government officials how to build their economy is what civil affairs soldiers do," Smith said.

"Mansoor's lecture, leaders of the 412th asked how best to approach the mission of rebuilding infrastructure, the maintenance of a civil affairs mission."

"Learn at least 500 Arabic words now," Mansoor said. "By communicating in Arabic, you'll show local leaders you are interested in their culture and history."

"You are working at the grass-roots level now, so interaction with Iraqis maintains that trust in you, and you, in turn,"

See Advice part on page 7
By Tom Casasanta
DFAS Corporate Communications

For Tom Michelli, the journey to become a member of the Senior Executive Service and the executive director of Enterprise Solutions in the Information Operations Directorate for the Defense Logistics Agency has been eventful.

Michelli spoke to Leaders in Motion employees at Defense Finance and Accounting Service Columbus July 23, and provided them with an overview of DLA, which is a DFAS customer located at Fort Belvoir Va., an overview of the SES, and notes about his story and how he became an SES with DLA.

“It’s great for me to be here today,” said Michelli. “Anytime I get a chance to speak with employees and provide useful insight, I jump at the opportunity,” he added.

Michelli began his presentation with a brief overview of DLA and its continued support for the warfighter. DLA provides several services to the U.S. military, including supplies and communication support. More than 25,000 civilians, 474 active duty military members and 759 reserve military members work at sites in 48 states and around the world as DLA employees.

“Last fiscal year, we operated on a $38 billion budget. That would have put us at number 61 on the Fortune 500 list. Hopefully, that gives you an idea at how large we really are,” Michelli said.

The journey for Michelli to the SES ranks began when he was at The Ohio State University and accepted an Army scholarship while in school. After his tour of duty in the Army, Michelli accepted a job with Huntington Bank.

Michelli then attended Franklin University, where he went to school to study technology to coincide with his job at Huntington.

Eventually Michelli made his way to DLA and into the SES. Only about 8,000 people are in the SES, the highest level of civilian leadership in the federal government.

“SES members make up approximately .0044 percent of the United States federal government work-force,” Michelli said.

Michelli spoke about the requirements to become an SES, which involve being appointed by a higher official, and the documents that need to be submitted. Michelli touched upon a certain document that also had to be in a certain writing format, with correct grammar and no misspellings.

“I had to work on my writing, double check my grammar, among other things, because it counted towards my appointment,” he said.

Michelli offered attendees advice on how to succeed as federal employees, but also advice for growth in their personal lives as well.

“Have a goal in mind, but work to achieve your values and not to achieve success,” he said.

The basis of Michelli’s advice to attendees was to better yourself as a person, and by doing so, you will better yourself as a federal employee. Different points of advice were given to those in attendance that Michelli developed on his way to becoming a DLA SES.

Highlights he touched upon included make the most of the job you have; build bridges, do not burn them; and there is no place for cynicism. Throughout these points of advice and others, Michelli talked about instances where he encountered a situation relating to his advice, and how he overcame it.

“The advice that affected me the most was that you always have to work hard and never burn bridges, because even though you might not like your job, if you don’t excel at it you won’t get another job or a promotion,” said Alex Diaz, a LIM accountant in the Departmental Reporting division of Accountants Maintenance and Control.

“The presentation was effective in many ways. It explained the new direction DLA is taking and their hiring needs, but also explained how perseverance and dedication can take your career wherever you want it to,” Diaz added.
"Efficiency" enduring theme of DLA supplier conference

By Heather Athey and Beth Reece

Logistics and industrial expert focus on efficiently supplying workloads led to unprecedented success in the last decade. Defense Logistics Agency Director Tony Vos Adm. Alan Thompson told an audience of employees, suppliers and customers on the second morning of the 2010 DLA Enterprise Supplier Conference and Exhibition in Columbus, Ohio.

"We've really got to become a more efficient logistics enterprise and try to reduce costs wherever we can, and again, it's not that Secretary Gates is seeing the defense budget is going to plummet. Certainly, there is going to be some stress and we would like us both - on the Department of Defense side as well as industry - to look for innovative ways that we can reduce maintenance costs and use those funds to modernize the force," he said.

The good news for suppliers, Thompson added, is that as modernization and acquisition of new systems occur, there will be a greater demand for spare parts and other material support. "The first individual speaker of the morning, Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller Robert Hale, about a DoD-wide spotlight on DLA's push to realize efficiencies in its operations, and how larger DoD movements will affect the agency and its suppliers. "In the Department of Defense, we don't produce weapon systems, we don't produce supplies, we depend on you, the private sector to make that happen," Hale said. "We are partners in America's defense. There are more than 1.4 million men and women in the armed forces today and they're all depending on us. We all are doing our best."

"The country is facing tough economic circumstances, he explained, and DoD needs to show the American public it's doing everything possible to be efficient and in accordance with the money already allocated to defense before asking for additional funds. "We have to find a way to get the financial resources to meet our national security needs. We owe our troops the financial support they need to carry out their mission," Hale said.

"I believe what we're asking for is the minimum required to keep our men and women in the military that's fighting two wars and maintain it into the future. We still have some modest real growth in the defense budget, about 2 percent, but less than we've requested from Congress," he said.

See Efficiency on page 10

DIA, industry partners must create more value for warfighters, taxpayers, speaker says

Shay Auden, director of defense procurement and acquisition policy, said Aug. 25 at the 2010 DLA Enterprise Supplier Conference and Exhibition.

"I am the final speaker to talk about innovation and using IT to sustain, or increase, if you will, the 'tooth,' the 'teeth,' of our military," he said.

The DIA is responsible for the Defense Logistics Agency’s support of the military force. The Defense Logistics Agency helps military forces maintain readiness, provides resources to support national security and shapes defense logistics doctrine to respond to the dynamic challenges of the 21st century.

"This is not about reducing costs. This is not about reducing fear, the new movement fears, the new movement efficiency. "It's efficiency toward safety, efficiency toward safety for the warfighter and for the tax payer. This is about finding those efficiencies in our processes, in our people, in our systems," Auden said.

"There's no doubt that we can improve our buying power if we increase small business participation in DLA's operations. "It's about small business, so we intend, in the procurement process, we intend to increase small business participation in DLA's operations. This is not about reducing small business, this is about increasing small business participation in DLA's operations," Auden said.

See Value on page 10

Conference focuses on ‘Globally Responsive Forward Support’ theme

By Deborah Finkler and LaTonya Johnson

"Globally Responsive Forward Support" drew interest from attendees on the main exhibit floor at the supplier conference. [Image 1289x113 to 1563x339]

"What we're looking to do is partner with industry to find out how we can improve our buying power, how we can improve our ability to deliver, how we can improve our delivery of first-class logistics support to the warfighter," said Joseph Coppedge, a DLA Aviation employee, who spoke Aug. 23-25 at the 2010 DLA Enterprise Supplier Conference and Exhibition.

"We have to find a way to get the financial resources to meet our national security needs. We owe our troops the financial support they need to carry out their mission," Hale said. "We are partners in America's defense. There are more than 1.4 million men and women in the armed forces today and they're all depending on us. We all are doing our best."
Efficiency

Continued from page 8

“We need you to improve your productivity by eliminating non-value added activity as we are doing,” Hale said. “We need you to tighten your belts, too, and help us find ways to reduce our costs. We need you to help us hold down costs. We need more programs to come in under budget,” Hale said. “We need you to improve your productivity by eliminating non-value added activity as we are doing.”

In the near future, Hale said he expects DoD to leverage competition and continue involving small businesses as it tries to rein in costs.

“This is not the work of a single season; it’s going to take a while,” he said. “But we have to find ways, with your help, to lower costs. We need to meet DoD’s requirements at a price this country can afford.”

During a mid-morning panel discussion between senior acquisition executives from each of DLA’s four primary-level field activities, attendees learned about some of the challenges in acquisition.

Richard Ellis, deputy commander and senior acquisition executive for DLA Troop Support, spoke about contract integrity and procurement fraud.

“Most of the contractors we do business with each and every day are honest and approach our business relationships with the utmost integrity. There are, however, a small percentage of individuals and companies that are hell-bent on maximizing the bottom line using fraudulent activity... we are being very proactive in trying to detect and root out fraud,” he said.

The agency is increasing the number of contracting officer representatives in Afghanistan to help monitor contract performance in theater, and raising awareness among all employees through training on fraud schemes and recognizing fraud indicators. But DLA can’t fight fraud alone, Troop Support Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Scott Chambers added.

“I ask that you also consider raising awareness within your companies and subcontractors. You need to be involved because one bad actor can give the whole industry a black eye,” he said.

“Bottom line: DLA has zero tolerance for fraud.”

Milton Lewis, senior acquisition executive for DLA Land and Maritime, said his supply chain is very susceptible to counterfeit material due to its work with electronics.

The agency has released a list of qualified suppliers “to ensure we are conducting audits of our electronics suppliers and reduce our risk of dealing with folks providing counterfeit material,” he said, adding that suppliers of electronics items will also be required to provide traceability of their parts.

As the DoD agency responsible for auditing contracts, the Defense Contract Audit Agency will help do its part in detecting fraud, as well as achieving efficiency in DLA contracts, said Patrick Fitzgerald, the newly installed DCAA director.

“Everybody here plays an important part in delivering the supplies and services our troops need,” he said. “We are committed to providing all the support that our warfighters require and we are committed to assisting the buying community to achieve the goal of delivering a better value to the taxpayer.”

Value

Continued from page 8

provided an additional forum for addressing small-business concerns, specifically those of service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses at an Aug. 25 afternoon town hall session.

“DLA is placing a lot of emphasis on getting to its goal on SDVOSB. The director has issued a direct challenge to the DLA acquisition workforce to raise the level of solicitations awarded to this group,” Meehan said.

DLA has developed special new strategies to raise SDVOSB participation. In addition to the acquisition workforce challenge, DLA will continue to conduct market research to identify SDVOSBs and has revitalized the VetBiz initiative, which was formed in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2007, for national sustainment.

Revamping VetBiz adjusted the initiative’s focus from its previous purpose of finding veteran-owned small businesses to fill requirements in the dwindling manufacturer resources arena to a model that lets SDVOSBs develop repeatable processes that will allow them to continue to do successful, profitable business with DLA, officials said.

In addition to the town hall, DLA again offered an afternoon full of break-out sessions on topics ranging from alternative fuels to procurement integrity and acquisition. There was also a Defense Finance and Accounting Service workshop.

During a session focused on the Joint Contingency Acquisition Support Office session, JCA- SO director Navy Rear Adm. Ron MacLaren gave an overview of the contingency acquisition program. He told the audience JCASO provides program management of operational contract support to all of DoD combatant commands for planning exercises, training and deployments. MacLaren also said his office will forward-deploy teams in support of the combatant commands.

“We have fly-away teams to assist with a contingency operation and provide contracting oversight. They also interface with the State Department and USAID organization and synchronize our efforts during certain contingency operations, such as after January’s earthquake in Haiti,” he said.

During the Performance-Based Logistics session, representatives from DLA Headquarters, DLA Land and Maritime and DLA Troop Support explained why PBL partnerships are important to the agency, its suppliers and customers.

“PBLs work because of the partnerships between DLA, industry and the services. No one can do it in a vacuum,” said Bonnie Edson, a PBL specialist from DLA Land and Maritime. Air Force Capt. John Spicer, director of the newly created DLA PBL Office, said DLA has done a good job establishing PBLs.

“There are opportunities out there,” he said. “DLA is involved and there is lots of potential with PBL partnerships with industry.”

Vikki Hawthorne of the DLA Land and Maritime Small Business Programs Office explains various programs and set-asides that are available to small businesses, as well as requirements small businesses must meet to do business with DLA or other federal entities, during a session at the DLA Enterprise Suppliers Conference and Exhibition.
Associates recognized for support of Navy ship in Japan

Two Defense Logistics Agency Land and Maritime associates were recognized recently for their support of the USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62) during its recent maintenance availability in Japan.

Pete Rose, the customer logistics site specialist at Ship Repair Facility Yokosuka, and Steve Pryor, the customer account specialist for Yokosuka, were personally thanked by the USS Fitzgerald’s Commanding Officer, Navy Cmdr. Dennis Velez, for their assistance during the ship’s recent availability in Yokosuka.

The USS Fitzgerald, an Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, started the availability with 94 percent of the material on-hand and ordered 872 line items after the availability began for a total receipt percentage of 98 percent.

Pryor said he and Rose make a good team in supporting SRF Yokosuka due to the knowledge he has gained from 29 years in the Navy and 19 years of working for DLA and Rose’s experience from serving more than 20 years in the Navy.

“Using both knowledge factors has been a great help in meeting the shipyard material requirements,” he said. “The shipyard does a great job each and every day in keeping the naval ships in outstanding working order.”

Maritime Customer Operations director Navy Capt. Kevin Head said the support from Pryor and Rose was a “truly significant accomplishment” considering other events that were going on simultaneously at the ship repair facility, including USS Cowpens SRA/Emergent Docking, the USS Mustin Emergent Docking, various visiting submarines and closing out the USS George Washington availability.

“Bravo Zulu to our Yokosuka team,” Head said.

Quick response on urge requirement earns kudos for associates

Two Defense Logistics Agency Land and Maritime associates were recently recognized for their efforts to satisfy an urgent requirement for the USS Sam Rayburn (SSBN/MTS 635) through Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

NNSY forward presence customer logistics site specialist Willie Strickland and DLA Land and Maritime NNSY emergency buyer Ken Flaute worked to meet an urgent requirement for 30 containers of hazardous material sorbent for the USS Sam Rayburn, a nuclear-powered fleet ballistic missile submarine.

The emergency was identified July 19, and Strickland located a source with material on the shelf that would ship overnight.

Flaute then contacted the manufacturer and informed them about the urgent requirement and how quickly it was needed.

“They were wonderful to work with because they responded that they could do this as required if they could get an order into their hands by that afternoon,” he said. “So I worked with the helpdesk to get the PR pushed into the system and worked on the needed documentation and as soon as it got into DPACS, I completed the order and emailed a copy to the vendor.”

The emergency buy was created and awarded July 20 and delivered the next day.

The USS Sam Rayburn, named after a former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, was the 50th nuclear powered submarine and 28th fleet ballistic submarine to enter service when she was commissioned in December 1964. She was decommissioned in 1989 and reclassified as a moored training ship (MTS 635) currently located at Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit, Charleston, S.C.
Continued from page 1

their brothers.”

Delgado pointed out that at the time the unit deployed to Al Anbar province, the area was considered the “Wild West,” with virtually no Iraqi security forces operating or formal government in place.

“When we left we knew we had made a difference, but you couldn’t tell yet,” added Delgado.

The last speaker during the service was Ken Kreuter, father of Sgt. David Kreuter, one of the Marines killed in action.

“Five years ago yesterday was our son’s funeral,” Kreuter stated as he began his remarks. “We miss our guys daily, even hourly. But, we remember our heroes. We are proud of their performance and achievements.”

After the speakers concluded their remarks, three wreaths were ceremonially placed near the memorial wall.

The first wreath was laid by members of the Inspector-Instructor staff and former Company L Marines. The second wreath was laid by three Marines who were wounded in action while deployed with the company in 2005. The final wreath was carried into place by Beckie Dixon, Stephanie Derga and Carolyn Cifuentes, the mothers of three of the men being remembered during the service.

A barbecue reception was hosted by a local Veterans of Foreign Wars post after the service. The company has experienced a tremendous outpouring of support, especially since the 2005 deployment.

“I have never seen this level of community support for one unit in my 17 years of service,” Holder said. Company L, a reserve infantry unit, was activated in May of this year and is currently conducting pre-deployment training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., in anticipation for an upcoming deployment overseas.


A Marine carries metal folding chairs into place behind a granite memorial wall listing the names of the 22 Marines and one sailor from Company L, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, who were killed in action in 2005 during the unit’s deployment to Iraq. The Marine was preparing for an Aug. 21 memorial wreath laying service honoring the sacrifice of the 23 service members held at the Naval Support Operations Center Columbus.

Above, Stephanie Derga (left), Beckie Dixon (center) and Carolyn Cifuentes (right) share an embrace after placing a wreath in front of a memorial during an Aug. 21 wreath laying ceremony at the Naval Support Operations Center Columbus. The three women all lost a son during Company L, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment’s deployment to Iraq in 2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Below, Beau Links (left), Master Sgt. Larry R. Bowman (center) and Collen West (right) stand at attention after placing a wreath in front of a memorial during a wreath laying ceremony at the Naval Support Operations Center Columbus Aug. 21. All three men were wounded in action while deployed with Company L, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment to Iraq in 2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The wreath laying ceremony was held in remembrance of the 22 Marines and one sailor from Co. L who were killed in action during that deployment.

Three roses were left leaning on a memorial stone listing the names of 22 Marines and one sailor from Company L, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, who were killed in action in 2005 in Iraq.
4th annual Army, Marine golf outing set

The fourth annual Army vs. Marine Corps golf outing is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 16, with a shotgun start at 11 a.m. at the DSCC Eagle Eye Golf Course.

The event is open to all active duty and retired Army and Marine Corps members, Reserve and National Guard members. Team and singles are needed.

Anyone interested in playing on the Army team should call Mike Ward at 614-692-2965; anyone who wants to play on the Marine Corps team should call Jim Lange at 614-692-7033.

Participants are asked to bring an unwrapped toy that will be donated to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots drive.

All other proceeds will go to Toys for Tots.

Annual FEA golf tourney scheduled for Sept. 13

The 9th annual Federal Executive Association of Columbus and Central Ohio Golf Tournament is Sept. 13 at the Eagle Eye Golf Course. All federal agencies are invited to play in the 18-hole scramble, which will begin at 12:30 p.m. with a shotgun start.

Cost is $40 per person, which includes green fees, riding cart, beverages, use of the driving range and prizes. At stake is possession of the prestigious FEA Tournament Golf Trophy.

Anyone who would like to sponsor a team should call Barry Roberts at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Columbus office by Sept. 7 at 614-469-5737, ext. 8308, or by e-mail at barry.a.roberts@hud.gov.

GOLF BRIEFS

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Themes

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ammunition or surplus material.

Jim Secrist, a contracting officer with DLA Land and Maritime, also facilitated part of the workshop and told participants, “This is a great opportunity to get your feet wet in eCommerce.”

In another session, DLA Energy Deputy Commander Patrick Dulin explained his organization’s mission and how businesses can partner with DLA Energy. During this session, participants wanted to know about physical security for contractors delivering fuel in Afghanistan. Dulin explained that vendors were responsible for their own security when delivering fuel. He also explained that DLA Energy and other DLA organizations partner with other federal agencies, including NASA, the U.S. Postal Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

At another session, Teresa Smith, the deputy director of business process support at DLA Aviation in Richmond, Va., explained why forecasting is important. During her session, “Forecasting With Suppliers,” Smith explained how vendors can use the forecasting tool, the Supplier Requirements Visibility Application, which gives suppliers the visibility of projected requirements up to 24 months in advance.

Smith said it is important for suppliers to keep the lines of communication open so that DLA personnel will know whether adjustments have to be made during the demand planning process. If suppliers are aware of a raw material shortage or a potential strike, then DLA needs to be aware of that information as well, Smith said.

She told the audience that forecasting allows DLA to improve its customer support and reduce supply chain costs.

“Within DLA as an enterprise, we’re doing a lot with forecasting with our customers to get as much accurate information to give realistic requirements and purchase requests to our suppliers,” she said.

Smith added that by everyone working together, warfighters can maintain mission readiness.

“We’re all about getting the material to the warfighter when they need it,” she said.
Local FEW leader speaks at diversity forum in nation’s capital

A central Ohio federal employee who is the newly elected national executive vice president for Federally Employed Women recently served as a panel member for the first Homeland Security Diversity Forum: Women’s Forum at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.

The theme for the forum was “Building a Community for Women in the Federal Government” and the purpose was to identify barriers and best practices for women in the workforce and guidance for the Working Families Initiative.

Some of Fitch-Gordon’s key points during her discussion were:
- Federally Employed Women has been working on gender discrimination issues since its inception in 1968. Diversity remains very important for FEW and its members.
- While representation of women at the lower grade levels in the federal workforce is basically equitable, at the higher levels women are falling short of their male counterparts.
- By far, FEW members cite the lack of training and cross-training as a major impediment to women moving into the top levels of the federal government. Second, women tend to be employed at the lower ranks in the federal government at much greater numbers than men.
- Having a mentor is an extremely important aspect to any federal worker. Women need to have leaders to whom they can ask questions, obtain advice about their careers, receive suggestions on career moves, training needs and special project assignments, and obtain general information about the process of moving up the career ladder.

Forum coordinator Patricia Trujillo of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security shared the results of the feedback from attendees with Fitch-Gordon. The panel on which Fitch-Gordon served was the favorite of the day.

Trujillo stated that “it was a great day for DHS and our first Women’s Forum,” adding that she is looking forward to working with Fitch-Gordon again.

GOLF LEAGUE RESULTS

Following are the standings after Aug. 25 play of the DSCC installation Sportsmen’s Golf League, which plays on Wednesday nights.

(Week 18 of a 21-week schedule)

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<tr>
<th>Team (Captain)</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Points (Total)</th>
<th>Points (2nd half)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mother Load (Dan Bell)</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>301</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>678</td>
<td>323</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokin’ Aces</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>323</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lightweights (Jim Homec)</td>
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<td>331</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plaid Ain’t Bad (Chad Cantrell)</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>316</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Scratches</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>T. LeFever</td>
<td>33 D. Baldogo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Net</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>D. Martin</td>
<td>27 D. Baldogo</td>
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Best League Performances

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Season-To-Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>T. LeFever</td>
<td>33 D. Baldogo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Net</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 D. Martin</td>
<td>27 D. Baldogo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FREE CLASSIFIED AD FORM

The Columbus Federal Voice

Free ads are subject to the policy printed on the right.

Please type or print your ad below (one word per line, limit 20 words).

Home and/or work phone number must be included on submitted ad form.

Share-a-Ride [ ] Lost & Found [ ] Wanted [ ] Real Estate for Sale

Automobile [ ] For sale [ ] Garage Sale [ ] Other

I certify that the property or service listed above are my own and that the property will be shown or sold without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factors.

This form must be signed

Name ____________________________ Office Symbol ____________________

Signature _________________________ Work Phone______________________

Columbus Federal Voice Free Classified Ad Policy

1. Only federal employees and military personnel in Central Ohio are eligible for free ads.
2. Ads must not exceed 20 words.
3. Ads may be submitted by one of the following methods: e-mail (publicaffairs.des@dla.mil); type or neatly print on form at left and send via inter-office mail to DSCC-DSER, Bldg. 28, room B27N, mail to The Columbus Federal Voice, P.O. Box 3990, ATTN: DOEB, Columbus, Ohio 43218-3990; hand carry to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 20, Room B27N, or fax to 614-693-1563.
4. Ads will appear in the Voice with home and/or work phone numbers, including area code, only. No names may appear in the free ad.
5. A maximum of three ads per issue will be accepted from one employer. Ads will run for no more than three issues after which ads must be resubmitted. Please notify the Public Affairs Office if advertised items are sold.

Your cooperation is needed in order to continue to offer free ads in The Columbus Federal Voice. The publisher reserves the right to edit and/or reject ads which do not conform to the intent of the Free Ad Policy, which is to provide federal employees and military personnel who work within the distribution area of The Columbus Federal Voice an opportunity to advertise personal property in which other employees or military personnel may be interested.

11. Ads must be submitted by COB on the Monday of the week preceding the publication date of The Voice. No revisions or cancellations will be accepted after that Monday’s deadline.
Operation Feed workers thanked for effort on campaign

About 40 DLA Columbus associates who worked on this year’s Operation Feed campaign on the DSCC installation gathered Aug. 4 in the Building 20 cafeteria for a wrap-up ceremony. Campaign coordinator Joyce Bryant and DLA Land and Maritime Deputy Chief of Staff Griff Warren both thanked the captains, keyworkers, directors and those who helped load the Operation Feed truck for their support of this year’s effort, which resulted in the collection of nearly 39,000 pounds of food. The food was donated to the Mid-Ohio Food-Bank, which helps keep food shelves stocked in more than 500 food pantries, soup kitchens and emergency shelters throughout central Ohio.