

# Fuel Line

July 2009

New  
face of DESC

## Inside this issue:

Fuel Line turns the page  
Energy Source makes its debut  
New name reflects expanding mission





# Energy Source

July 2009  
Defense Energy Support Center

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**Algae-to-oil technology growing**  
**Bringing renewable bright ideas to fruition**  
**Bulk fuels AIT roadmap nearing completion**

# From the Director

## DESC continues to transform and adapt to meet evolving needs



**DESC Director  
Kim J Huntley**

**Beyond our role of traditional fuel and energy support, today's needs present opportunities to leverage new technologies. *Energy Source*, our magazine's new name, reflects that expanding mission.**

Welcome to the first issue of the Defense Energy Support Center's *Energy Source* magazine.

For more than 44 years, DESC's *Fuel Line* magazine has represented our organization's origin and mission. Although we began as a one-page newsletter, we evolved into a publication that kept our customers, personnel and the public involved and aware of the ongoing, essential fuel support provided worldwide. The publication proved itself to be an outstanding magazine reflective of DESC's mission. We are confident that *Energy Source* will continue the legacy of *Fuel Line* as a source of valuable information and news to our readers.

Today is an exciting time for the Defense Energy Support Center as our mission continues to expand and include emerging areas of renewable and alternative methods for satisfying our customers' energy needs. Through our core mission of energy support, we provide products and services that are essential to our warfighters, the Department of Defense's mission and customers. Our mission is expanding beyond our role of traditional fuel and energy support, as we leverage new technologies.

DESC is transforming and adapting to meet evolving needs. As our nation continues to embrace energy conservation, the need for energy security, and a renewed awareness of environmental impact, DESC focuses on a system of solutions to meet these challenges. Our business units continue to pursue solar power, hydrogen power, synthetic fuels and other alternative/renewable energy sources as new procurement, research and development initiatives materialize.

*Energy Source*, our magazine's new name, reflects our expanding mission. It blends our origins, acknowledges our successes, and chronicles our advancement in providing energy solutions.

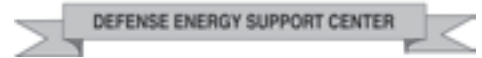
As we move forward, we will continue to provide the DoD and other government agencies with comprehensive energy solutions in the most effective and efficient manner possible—maintaining our position as our customer's first choice for energy solutions.

Thank you for your commitment to our DESC team. Your dedication and hard work is reflected everyday through our outstanding customer support.

*Kim J Huntley*

DESC provides effective, economical and comprehensive energy solutions for the Department of Defense and other customers.

# Energy Source



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**On the cover:** *Energy Source* marks DESC’s expanding mission as the premier source of energy products and services for DoD and other federal agencies. Renewable/alternative energy sources join traditional and aerospace energy products as emerging areas of expertise. (Graphic by Idella Fletcher)

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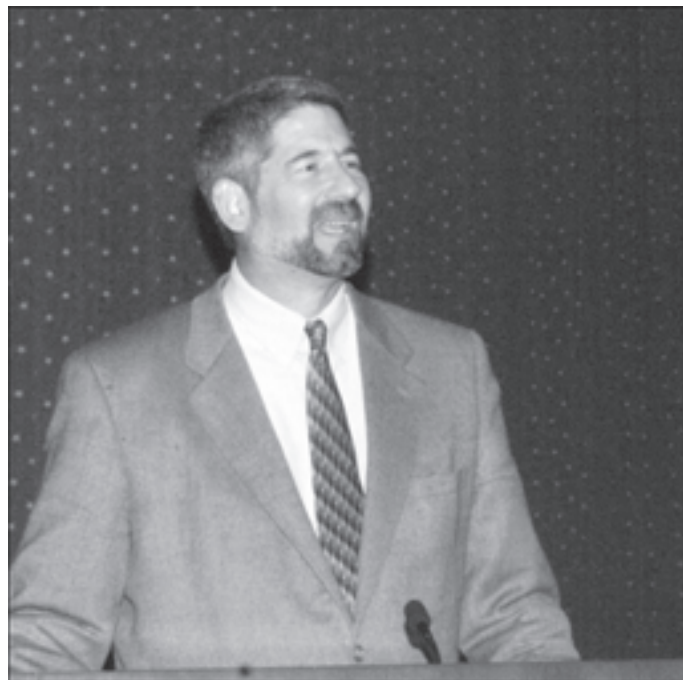
# Earth Day speaker addresses drop-in replacements for fuels

By Susan Declercq Brown  
DESC Public Affairs

What's the best replacement for petroleum? Petroleum.

This was the major premise of Dr. John Regalbuto's presentation in the Defense Logistics Agency headquarters auditorium April 22. Regalbuto, a professor of chemical engineering at the University of Chicago and a program director at the National Science Foundation, was the key speaker for DLA's Earth Day activities.

The scientist said the two biggest challenges for biomass fuels, after gaining sufficient financing, are increasing the mileage achieved with biomass fuels and reducing the carbon dioxide debt created by current biomass technologies. One way to reduce that debt is to improve land use and energy crop choice, he explained.



*Dr. John Regalbuto, a professor of chemical engineering at the University of Chicago and a program director at the National Science Foundation, touts the benefits of drop-in replacement fuels, during a presentation to McNamara Complex employees, Fort Belvoir, Va., April 22.*

Regalbuto is a proponent of producing drop-in, or exact replacement, fuels from waste biomass products like forest debris and agricultural waste, non-food plants like switchgrass and sorghum, and other perennials grown on marginal or abandoned land.

If land is used responsibly, the carbon footprint of biomass fuels is substantially lower than that of crude oil products, he said. Responsible use includes making use of lands not suitable for food crops, pulling out forest waste rather than decimating forests, harvesting switchgrass, which dries out every few months, and using poplar trees, which re-pollinate themselves.

Regalbuto went on to explain that when crude oil fuel is burned, all the gas released is new carbon dioxide. But, when biomass products are burned, the carbon dioxide released into the air is merely being re-released. It is the carbon dioxide the plants pulled from the air to start with – so the same CO<sub>2</sub> is being re-released into the atmosphere. Thus, the biomass carbon footprint is significantly smaller, he concluded.

The United States has one billion tons of sustainable biomass available to it each year, said Regalbuto, enough to replace 30 percent of the crude oil consumed here each year. And, the fuel produced from this waste has the same or better performance specifications as current commercial fuels, he maintained.

Regalbuto stressed that although a 30 percent reduction in overall use of crude oil would be a substantial accomplishment, the country would need to pursue many other green initiatives to further reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gases.

Regalbuto said even if technology advances to make all automobiles electric, diesel and jet fuels will remain essential because no other energy currently exists to move heavy cargo in trucks and boats and propel heavy aircraft in flight.

“Green gasoline is not way out there – I would argue it's quite imminent,” Regalbuto predicted.

# Thompson addresses Town Hall

## *Leaders discuss partial relocation*

**By Susan Declercq Brown**  
**DESC Public Affairs**

A May 12 Defense Energy Support Center Town Hall meeting at Fort Belvoir, Va., which kicked off with a presentation by Defense Logistics Agency Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan S. Thompson, discussed DESC's growing leadership role in alternative fuels and energy, and wrapped up with a discussion of an upcoming relocation planned for some members of the DESC Fort Belvoir team.

Thompson described DESC as "one of the organizations in DLA that touches literally everything in Defense and beyond," and told a packed house, "The armed forces couldn't function for a day without your work."

Thompson said he consistently gets outside praise for DESC from DLA customers and considers DESC to be a model of agility, innovation and customer focus. The admiral described DESC as "cutting edge – everything we'd like to see in all of DLA," and he praised the quality assurance representatives for going beyond their job descriptions to help connect customers to other DLA activities.

"There is no area more important to focus on for our long-term security than alternative fuels," Thompson said, describing the changing face of defense energy and the importance of reducing dependence on foreign oil.

Thompson was the first to introduce the topic of DESC's impending partial move. He said the McNamara Complex building is severely overcrowded and the agency is seeking military construction funds to build a new facility on Fort Belvoir. The intent is for the DESC team to be colocated with the DLA headquarters, as it is currently, after the construction is complete. In the meantime, to meet DESC's urgent need for space now, a temporary leased space for approximately 350 employees is being sought in the Quantico-Stafford area of Virginia, along the U.S. Rte. 1 and I-95 corridor.

After outlining steps DESC is taking to move into a stronger leadership role in the federal government and the Defense Department and a presentation from Frank Pane, Director of Energy Plans and Programs, DESC Director



*At a May 12 Town Hall meeting, DESC Executive Director Patrick Dulin explains the criteria the center will use to design an upcoming partial relocation of DESC Fort Belvoir employees. (Photo by Lawrence "Robbie" Robinson)*

Kim Huntley and Executive Director Patrick Dulin further addressed the relocation plans and took questions from the audience.

The relocation schedule is dependent on leased-space availability. Center leaders plan to give a minimum of 90-days notice to any employees who may be affected.

The relocation will be conducted with two guiding principles: no degradation of mission performance and maintaining or improving the quality of life for DESC's individual employees, said Dulin.

The relocation will be conducted in two waves of employees: 200 and 158. An integrated process team will be formed to work out the specifics. The first step will be to assign employees in newly created billets to the southern location. Then employee preferences will be taken into consideration.

"No decisions have been made yet on how we'll achieve this," cautioned Huntley. "Lots of things are on the table" – some CBUs might split between locations, some may have to be kept intact to perform the mission; employees may need to consider whether they're willing to switch CBUs and jobs to work at their preferred location.

The IPT will weigh all the issues, preferences and recommendations and propose the best course of action, keeping mission and quality of life as its guiding principles, the leaders stressed.

# DESC helps DoD bring renewable bright ideas to

By Andrea Kincaid

## DESC Installation Energy Business Unit

When it comes to expanding the Defense Energy Support Center's mission to bring energy from renewable sources to its customers, the Installation Energy Business Unit, or DESC-A, is powering up to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

Providing the Department of Defense and other federal agencies energy solutions to support missions and operations worldwide requires DESC to actively engage in different energy opportunities while, at the same time, continually expanding its support role. DESC monitors emerging technological advancements to ensure its customers receive the most effective and efficient services. To accomplish this, DESC-A has established a cadre of energy and acquisition professionals to develop efforts that facilitate on-site renewable projects at federal installations.

### Learning

While many government agencies are pursuing renewable efforts, there have been few success stories, yet. Expanding into the renewable markets has required the DESC team to become savvy in various types of renewable resources and to understand the benefits and constraints of each. The team is also getting smarter in other renewable project



*U.S. President Barack Obama, left, tours a solar power site with Air Force Col. Howard Belote, center, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada May 27. Nellis has North America's largest solar photovoltaic power plant. (Photo by John Locher-Pool/Getty Images)*

aspects to include specification and design components of a renewable project; available financing, incentives and rebate programs; environmental issues and concerns; and real estate agreements, to name a few.

To gain a comprehensive grasp on these issues, the DESC-A team has been actively collecting information and educating its workforce by attending conferences and participating in DoD and federally-sponsored renewable energy working group meetings. Team members have had the opportunity to attend some of the premier renewable conferences in the industry, including the Renewable Technologies 2009, American Wind Energy Association Wind Power 2009 and Solar Summit 2009 conferences. They have actively networked with the industry's best and brightest minds to gain the knowledge and expertise needed to develop a sustainable program and lead these efforts on behalf of DESC.

DESC-A representatives also participate in the Federal Energy Management Program Renewable Working Group, the Smart Grid Working Group and the Federal Utility Partnership Working Group. Through interaction and dialogue with other federal agencies, team members not only enhance and expand their knowledge of renewable programs and current efforts, but they help chart the course and build the path for other agencies to follow using lessons learned and best practices.

And, perhaps the best means of learning and understanding these technologies is to see them in action. To do this, the team partnered with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Boulder, Colo., and visited the lab's premier renewable facility. It houses a solar array, a mini-wind farm and geothermal applications, as well as a small-scale ocean thermal energy conversion system.

DESC-A will continue to explore and take full advantage of new learning opportunities in its drive to become the recognized leader for renewable energy procurement solutions.

### Applying

DESC-A has undertaken its first renewable project effort on behalf of the Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory in New Jersey. It was with great satisfaction, after numerous conference calls, meetings and e-mails, that DESC-A was able to issue the first solicitation Feb. 17 for a 1-megawatt rooftop and ground-mounted parking structure photovoltaic, or



solar panel, array.

As a first time endeavor, the team held a pre-proposal conference at the site to provide opportunities for both industry and government to analyze solicitation language and customer requirements. The conference was extremely successful; more than 30 companies sent representatives. Invaluable dialogue between government and industry representatives resulted in significant changes to the solicitation language, intended to make the requirements more appealing to potential offerors.

The solicitation closed for the receipt of technical proposals on May 15.

As DESC-A continues to strategically position itself to further support renewable projects, the team will continue to network with industry and customers for opportunities; participate in working groups to help establish guidance and procedures for initiating projects; and build an experience base by serving as a procurement agent for DoD and federal agencies ready to execute.

DESC-A is excited to be leading the charge for expanding the strategic mission with these new renewable initiatives and forward thinking opportunities to further support the warfighter.



*The Defense Energy Support Center's Installation Energy Business Unit is powering up to meet the challenge of bringing energy from renewable sources to its customers. Wind and sun are just two of the many options the team is exploring.*

# New pricing mechanism provides drivers relief in Japan

By Chris Barnett

DESC Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit

The Defense Energy Support Center implemented a new cost mechanism for the military exchanges in Japan in February. Now the price servicemen and women pay at the pump will track closely with the prices they see elsewhere.

Previously the prices were changed only a few times a year. Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines could not take immediate advantage of falling prices.

Before the implementation, the exchanges received standard pricing from DESC, just as the military services do.

For the military services, DESC posts a very stable standard price for the cost of fuel products. If the average price of fuel falls or rises substantially during the fiscal year, the standard price is adjusted to reflect these changes in the bills to its customers – but only a few times a year. This stable standard cost is beneficial to the military services as they plan and track budgets for fuel over the fiscal year.

But, while this plan is advantageous for the Department of Defense as a whole, the “wait until next year” approach to passing along savings to the customer was not as helpful to the wallets of our military personnel and their families in Japan. In these economic times, our personnel need these

savings now. So, DESC changed the pricing mechanism for the exchanges.

This change allows the prices at the pump to be adjusted to closely reflect current market conditions. Under the new method, the price charged to the military exchanges will be updated daily based on the market indices for Japan.

DESC will bill the exchanges using the price for the day the product is delivered. This will allow exchanges to change their retail prices more frequently to reflect market prices.

To put the change in place, a DESC team worked to define the customer base and to create, test and implement the new cost structure. Team members came from DESC Financial Operations, Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit, Defense Fuel Support Center Management, the Pacific Region and Information Operations.

“I’m excited about this change because it directly impacts the money that comes out of our servicemen and women’s pockets,” said Mik Thompson, Direct Delivery Fuels BU. “Now the price they pay at the pump will track closely with the price they see elsewhere. If prices fall in the market, they’ll see these changes immediately instead

of waiting to catch up on the savings when the next standard price change occurs.

“I’m glad I could be a part of this,” he said.

DESC will work with military exchanges to determine whether to implement this cost-plus pricing methodology at other exchange locations throughout the world.



*Courtesy photo*



*Contracting Officer Terry Perry, left, and Contract Specialist Najiyah Mahdi, of Defense Energy Support Center's Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit, recently supported Seabees in Cameroon as part of the Ground Fuels Division III team.*

# DESC supports Navy Seabees in Cameroon

**By Najiyah Mahdi**  
**DESC Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit**

The Defense Energy Support Center's Ground Fuels Division III team recently awarded a small business contract to support U.S. Navy Seabees in Cameroon, an area in which the division had no previous contract history. Team members considered this a monumental opportunity for U.S. small businesses.

Fraga Group Companies of Greenbelt, Md., received a contract with an estimated total value of \$338,100 for delivery of 74,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 3,600 gallons of premium unleaded gasoline to support pier construction in Limbe, Cameroon.

Solicitation SP0600-09-R-0208 challenged the division

because it was a new requirement and few known resources were available in Africa.

Fraga Chief Executive Officer Yaw Ayim traveled to Cameroon to confirm that SONORA, the state-owned company of Cameroon, was able to provide the fuel within DESC's specifications.

The division team worked diligently with Fraga to ensure they were able to meet the Seabees' needs. And, the customers have told DESC that Fraga is providing outstanding customer support and service. The contracting team is pleased with Fraga's accomplishments.

The team is part of Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit.

# Bulk fuels AIT roadmap nears completion

By Jim Sweeney  
DESC Executive Agent Office

Members of the Automatic Identification Technology Working Group toured a Plantation Pipeline Company facility in Lorton, Va., May 6, as part of a continuing effort to identify ways the Department of Defense could employ AIT to improve bulk fuels supply chain operations and management. During several trips to commercial terminals and contractor operations sites, working group members have seen first hand the benefits of effective technology.

The Defense Energy Support Center Executive Agent team, in partnership with representatives from the military services and key experts from throughout DESC, is nearing the completion of a roadmap to identify and implement various types of technology to improve accountability, improve safety, and reduce environmental vulnerabilities for Defense Department fuels professionals.

Work on the road map began in October 2008 when DESC AIT Program Manager Randy Beltran hosted a workshop to kick off a transformational effort for the bulk petroleum supply chain. The AIT Working Group was

formed and chartered to develop the best, cost-effective applications for technology. Beltran capitalized on the expertise of the fuels community to evaluate the current state of the DoD bulk petroleum supply chain — accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency — and how technology could enhance operational effectiveness.

The AIT Working Group critically examined the supply chain process and developed a prioritized list of requirements that would benefit the most from the application of AIT. However, use of single application technology is not the answer. This is why the group decided very early on that the only way to truly make a difference would be to integrate DESC's efforts with those of the military services and develop a comprehensive solution.

The group's initial focus is on the custody transfer process. But, that doesn't mean the future direction is limited to that. For example, such efforts must integrate the custody transfer solution with the Army's Tactical Automatic Tank Gauging effort and the Air Force's Automatic Point of Sale Device. This



*From left to right, DESC representatives Bill Gibson, Jim Mandziara and Tom Ashman receive a tour of the Plantation Pipeline Company's facilities a mile from Fort Belvoir, Va. Murray Clayton gestures as he explains pipeline operations. The visit was part of the Automatic Identification Technology Working group's continuing efforts to identify ways the Department of Defense could employ AIT to improve bulk fuel supply chain operations. (Photo by Susan Declercq Brown)*



**Far left:** From left to right, Defense Energy Support Center's Jim Mandziara, Jim Sweeney, and Tom Ashman question Plantation Pipeline Company's Murray Clayton.

**Left:** From left to right, Tom Ashman, Jim Mandziara, Jim Sweeney, Bill Gibson and Randy Beltran, DESC AIT program manager, listen as Plantation Pipeline Company's Murray Clayton explains how the company uses AIT. (Photos by Susan Declercq Brown)

integrated capability must support existing automated information systems so that the AIT equipment will automatically transmit the data it captures back to the appropriate control center with the right information or data system.

This capability already exists in the commercial sector. And,

DLA already uses technology such as radio frequency identification when transporting goods from origin to the warehouse or delivery directly to the customer. The AIT Working Group is working to make those capabilities a reality in DoD fuel operations.

*From left to right, Plantation Pipeline Company's Murray Clayton, center, explains site operations to representatives of the AIT Working Group May 6, as a partially hidden Bob Koeller and Tom Ashman lean in for the presentation. (Photo by Susan Declercq Brown)*



# Largest-ever construction

*Rear Adm. Mark Heinrich, director of the Defense Logistics Agency's Logistics Operations and Readiness directorate remarks during the ground breaking ceremony for Military Construction Project 401 Mar. 27 on Naval Base Point Loma, Calif., that the project is the largest ever MILCON ever undertaken by DLA. DLA funded the five-year project to replace an aging fuel storage facility at Defense Fuel Support Point Point Loma. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Yan M. Kennon)*



## By Susan Declercq Brown DESC Public Affairs

Military Construction Project P-401, the largest MILCON project ever undertaken by the Defense Logistics Agency, broke ground at the Defense Fuel Support Point Point Loma, Calif., fuels facility Mar 27.

The groundbreaking came after nearly a decade of planning, contracting and management by representatives of the Defense Energy Support Center and Navy.

DESC's early involvement in the project improved planning, reduced costs, increased safety, and will improve fuel support to the San Diego fleet throughout the construction process.

"P-401 is a project we've all been looking forward to for a very long time," said Commander of Navy Region Southwest Rear Adm. Len Hering.

"The Navy's drive to serve as environmental stewards has had a role in every decision," said Rear Adm. Mark Heinrich, director of logistics operations for DLA. The project was designed for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification by U.S. Green Building Council.

Project plans were derived from a blueprint of broad proportions that will change the footprint at DFSP Point

Loma, located six miles west of downtown San Diego.

Considerations for MILCON P-401 encompassed ecological concerns in addition to implementing the most efficient and secure infrastructure and technology available.

The project replaces eleven above-ground bulk storage tanks constructed between 1918 and 1950 with six new, 25,000-gallon, above-ground, bulk storage tanks. Also planned is the replacement of pumping stations and the fuel oil recovery plant, which offsets the cost associated with recovering fuel spill runoff, tank cleaning spoils and tank repairs. Truck fill racks are also scheduled to be replaced. A follow-on project will construct two additional storage tanks for a total capacity of 1 million barrels of product.

"DESC has been very involved in the design and support for P-401," said Air Force Lt. Col. Jon Ramer, commander of DESC Americas West region. The original design called for more, but smaller tanks. But, when the price skyrocketed, DESC recommended fewer, but larger, tanks.

"Not only did that save more than \$20 million in construction costs, but it also allowed enough of a reduction in the footprint of the tank farm that the entire farm could be located farther

# project breaks ground

*Stakeholders break ground Mar. 27 on Military Construction Project P-401, a fuel facility replacement project at Defense Fuel Support Point Point Loma, Calif., providing fleet assets and airfields annually with fuel valued at \$500 million. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Yan M. Kennon)*



away from housing units just outside the base fence line, enhancing safety,” Ramer explained.

Once the second phase is complete, approximately 40 other underground storage tanks may be closed, and the footprint of the fuel facility reduced to approximately 20 percent of its current size.

The fuels facility, which first began service as a coaling station, has been in continuous operation for more than 100 years and will undergo the replacement of storage tanks that have been in service for more than 80 years.

“This groundbreaking is the result of the persistent effort and hard work of members of the Navy/DLA team, elected officials and the community,” said Navy Capt. Glenn Robillard, commanding officer of Fleet and Industrial Supply Center San Diego. “The result will be a state-of-the-art fuel facility that will serve the Navy for the next century just as the current facility has served the Navy so well for the past 100 years.”

With a full schedule and fuel receipts that average more than 165 million gallons per year, reconstruction at the facility was configured so as to minimally impact customer needs and requirements.

“A critical element of the planning and design was to identify the most efficient way of sequencing the construction activities over multiple years so that the DFSP could meet its operational demands while a new facility was being constructed,” said Steve Frey, FISC San Diego fuels director.

“DESC has been very proactive in planning and supporting the fleet in San Diego during P-401,” said Ramer.

During construction, “DFSP Point Loma will lose approximately 500,000 barrels of storage capacity. Because three San

Diego-based aircraft carrier groups rely on the site for fuel, DESC worked with fuel contractor Kinder Morgan Energy Partners on a \$24-million project to construct four drain-dry storage tanks on nearby Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, right on the pipeline used to resupply Point Loma,” he explained.

“The 320,000 barrels of capacity in this project, coupled with the 300,000 barrels of capacity DESC leased in the Los Angeles basin to support P-401, more than make up for the projected loss of storage due to the construction,” Ramer said.

The construction plan is divided into two phases: construction and closure of the underground tanks. While the first set of tanks is under construction, operations will continue from underground storage tanks. After the second set of new tanks is complete, the old underground tanks could be decommissioned.

“These actions will decompress the construction period, reduce costs and sustain operating capacity at Point Loma,” Frey said.

The \$167-million-dollar MILCON investment will ensure that DFSP Point Loma maintains its strategic importance to the fleet while protecting the ecological balance of operating a bulk fuel oil storage facility.

Additionally, construction will extend the fuel facility’s life expectancy, reduce operating costs through increased efficiency, provide multi-storage capability and result in increased safety due to its renewed infrastructure.

*Editor’s note: Portions of this story originally appeared in Navy Compass.*

# Hawaii to host major clean energy

**By Hawaii Dept. of Business,  
Economic Development and Tourism**

The state of Hawaii, in cooperation with the Defense Energy Support Center and U.S. Pacific Command, will host the Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit and Expo, in Honolulu, Hawaii, Aug. 31 – Sept. 3.

The summit will provide a forum for government, defense department officials, industry professionals, customers and facilitators in the U.S. and Asia-Pacific region on public policy; emerging technologies and opportunities; energy efficiency and security issues that transcend national borders.

“We are pleased to partner with the United States Department of Defense on this important event,” said Governor Linda Lingle. “Hawaii is an ideal location to convene an energy-related meeting that brings together key public policy officials, our military forces and industry experts to focus on energy security through renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation. Hawaii can be a significant contributor and global role model of renewable energy development that also can positively impact Hawaii’s economic future.”

“As an energy consumer in Hawaii, Pacific Command and the Department of Defense recognize our responsibilities to foster conservation and clean energy production, while promoting energy independence,” said Navy Adm. Timothy J. Keating, U.S. Pacific Command commander. “This summit will provide stakeholders a forum to share ideas and help find areas where improvements can be made in energy efficiency.”

In January 2008, Hawaii entered into an unprecedented partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy known as The Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, which will change in a fundamental way how renewable energy efficiency resources are planned and used in the state of Hawaii. The goal of the HCEI is to have 70 percent of Hawaii’s energy come from clean sources by 2030. The successful development and execution of the objectives of this partnership will provide a replicable global model for achieving positive results.

“As the Asia-Pacific region sets an aggressive course toward energy independence, we can make greater progress with a joint effort,” Lingle said. “Hawaii’s solar, wind, wave, ocean thermal,

## Small Business hosts San Antonio conference

**By Jackie Craft and Virginia Broadnax  
DESC Office of Small Business Programs**

As part of the Defense Energy Support Center’s campaign to raise awareness of opportunities and services available to the small business community, the Office of Small Business Programs, or DESC-DU, held a conference in the San Antonio area May 5.

This networking and training conference was an effort to create an environment where small businesses can grow and establish working relationships.

DESC-DU hosted the conference at the Marriott Plaza Hotel. The 161 participants included representatives from small and large businesses as well as from the San Antonio Procurement Technical Assistance Center, Small Business Administration San Antonio District Office, DESC contracting business units from Fort Belvoir, Va., and San Antonio and the DESC and Defense Logistics Agency’s offices of Small Business.

Lula Manley, director of DESC’s Office of Small Business Programs, greeted the participants and presented an

overview of the events for the day. She also advised participants that members of the contracting community would discuss upcoming opportunities for the remainder of fiscal 2009 to give attendees a flavor of potential contracting possibilities.

Following Manley, DESC Director of Operations Army Col. Mark Olinger gave the welcoming address.

David Christy, a DESC procurement analyst, provided information on “Doing Business with the Defense Energy Support Center” and was followed by Virginia Broadnax, small business specialist, who spoke on how to participate in Small Business programs, presenting “Getting Started, Contractor Responsibility.”

Pat Tovar, program manager of the San Antonio Procurement Technical Assistance Center, gave an overview of functions of the PTAC and assistance provided.

Pamela Sapia, district director of the Small Business Administration’s San Antonio District Office, presented an overview of the functions of the San Antonio Small Business



# ergy summit

geothermal and climate resources can serve as the foundation for an economy based on renewable energy and energy conservation and efficiency.”

The 7th Korea-Pacific U.S. States joint conference also will be held in conjunction with this energy summit and exposition. A special delegation from Korea and the states of Alaska, California, Oregon, Idaho and Washington will attend to present renewable and alternative energy initiatives and technologies from their regions.

The summit will be held at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort. More information is available at [www.asiapacificcleanenergy.com](http://www.asiapacificcleanenergy.com).



Administration.

After a break, Sharon Murphy, director of DESC’s Aerospace Energy business unit, gave a talk and slideshow on Aerospace Energy entitled “Liquid Propellants, Non-Propellant Cryogenics and Compressed Gases.”

Following lunch, participants attended presentations given by DESC representatives from various business units on their respective commodities and unique requirements. Emma Smith, contract specialist from Bulk Petroleum, spoke on aviation synthetic fuels, and Ditu Kasuyi, contracting officer from Direct Delivery Ground Fuels Division II, spoke about DESC’s efforts to increase the industrial base of vendors who could provide quality biodiesel “B20” and ethanol “E85” alternative fuels. John Nelson, chief of the Electricity & Renewable Division, Renewable Initiatives, addressed coal, electricity, wind, biomass, geothermal renewable energy and ongoing alternative energy initiatives. Peggy Glasheen, small business specialist, Defense Logistics Agency Office of Small Business Programs, addressed

subcontracting opportunities and the Defense Department Mentor Protégé Program. And, Lindsey Hicks, a chemist in DESC’s Product Technology & Standardization Division, addressed specifications and concerns in providing alternative fuels and related products to DESC customers.

Later in the afternoon, representatives of DESC’s and DLA’s offices of Small Business programs and business unit representatives hosted three breakout sessions to provide training as well as opportunities to ask questions, develop partnerships and network with other vendors and government officials. The SBA and the San Antonio PTAC representatives participated in the breakout sessions and provided training and valuable information to new potential vendors.

# Fleet Cards demand fiscal responsibility

By Rene Kinsey

DESC Fuel Card Program Office

What do you do when you need to fuel your personal vehicle? Do you just pull in to a station and fill up without looking around for the lowest price per gallon? Does it matter what grade of fuel you purchase? Do you care how it affects your pocket book?

These are all questions we normally ask ourselves when it comes to our own vehicle, but what about when the vehicle belongs to the Department of Defense? There are several things Fleet Card users can and should do to use the card responsibly.

## Purchase the proper grade

To be fiscally responsible, DoD Fleet Card users should care. Not taking the time to purchase the proper grade of fuel or finding a lower price to fuel a DoD vehicle affects all of us as tax payers. By making a reasonable effort to purchase lower-priced fuel, not only will tax dollars be saved, but units will be able to stretch their

limited fuel budgets.

In addition, customers with flex-fuel vehicles should make every effort to ensure alternative fuels are used to the maximum extent possible. This will ensure DoD established environmental goals are met and will help decrease the country's fossil fuel dependence.

## Check the receipt

Obtaining a receipt and making sure the proper items are listed on the receipt are also a card user's responsibilities. Card users must print out or obtain a receipt, confirm the correct gallons and product are reflected, and provide the receipts to their accountable official for proper record keeping. Following these guidelines will ensure the government is billed properly. This helps the Defense Energy Support Center keep the standard price at the lowest possible price.

At the point of sale, the sales data is passed electronically from the mer-

chant to new DoD Fleet Card processor, Wright Express. The product codes used to process the sales data are pre-defined and coded the same for all network processors. However, some gas station equipment does not get upgraded on a regular basis, which may cause information to be altered or not recognized. The receipt should accurately reflect what was purchased.

In cases where sales data is not itemized to reflect the total gallons or product, the card user should annotate the missing details of what was purchased on that receipt. This helps the unit pay the monthly invoice and can assist with any disputed charges — especially if the unit is billed erroneously for the wrong fuel.

## Make authorized purchases

The DoD Fleet Card is intended to be used for fuel and minor maintenance for official government fleet vehicles. The card is not to be used to detail vehicles or purchase food, drinks or other general merchandise.

Since use of the DoD Fleet Card obligates the government, it is the responsibility of each card user to ensure the card is used only for authorized transactions. Each card user is therefore financially liable for all non-authorized purchases.

To ensure all card holders are kept up to date with current program information, there are numerous resources, as well as card holder training, on line. For a more detailed listing of authorized purchases, please visit the DESC Government Fuel Card Program Office Web page, Frequently Asked Questions on Fuel Cards, on the DESC Web site at <https://www.desc.dla.mil>.



DoD Fleet Cards are used to purchase fuel and minor maintenance for official government fleet vehicles. (Courtesy photo)

# Fuel Exchange Agreement strengthens partnership

## By DESC Europe and Africa Office

Defense Energy Support Center Director Kim Huntley signed a Fuel Exchange Agreement with Polish Navy Commander in Chief Vice Adm. Andrzej Karweta at the Polish Navy headquarters in the city of Gdynia April 27.

The Polish Navy is one of the first NATO allies to pursue a new Fuel Exchange Agreement under an Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement. This agreement will provide the capability for worldwide reciprocal fuel support, enable operational efficiencies and provide potential cost savings for both countries. While NATO

countries routinely partner and operate together in exercises and contingencies, the FEA process is a strong tool that strengthens ongoing support.

During the signing ceremony, the two leaders expressed deep appreciation for the efforts of the DESC-Polish teams in constructing the agreement. Both reinforced a future with a lasting commitment and partnership between the allied nations.



*Defense Energy Support Center Director Kim Huntley signs a Fuel Exchange Agreement with Polish Navy Commander in Chief Vice Adm. Andrzej Karweta at the Polish Navy headquarters in Gdynia, Poland, April 27.*

DESC International Agreement representatives first met with Polish Navy representatives in October 2006 at the DESC-hosted NATO Navy Fuel Exchange Agreement Conference in Wiesbaden, Germany. Over the next three years, DESC and Polish officials participated in discussions and negotiations to finalize a lasting agreement.

This partnership shows the value of the Fuel Exchange Agreement process and proves it can be a valuable tool.

## Return the receipt to the unit

The payment process for the DoD Fleet card is a simple one. WEX initially reimburses the merchant for each transaction. DESC is then billed by WEX, and DESC pays for the fuel. In turn, DESC bills the customer through the interfund process at the standard unit price. This standard unit price is designed to be a budgetary tool for DESC customers to estimate their fuel budget throughout the fiscal year. All non-fuel purchases are billed directly to the unit for direct payment to WEX.

It is the card user's responsibility to ensure the card is used in an appropriate, authorized manner. Card users are obligating

government funds to pay for the goods received and WEX invoices are payable upon receipt.

In this time of economic crisis, DoD Fleet Card users can help by ensuring they fill up their vehicle with the proper grade of fuel, ensure the receipt reflects accurately what was purchased, and return the receipt to their unit's Accountable Official for validation. These three little things can make verifying a fleet card invoice easier for the unit while following proper fuel card procedures.

As a DoD Fleet Card user, it is your fiscal responsibility.

## When is participating in non-federal conferences okay?

# To speak or not to speak .....

By Louise E. Hansen  
DESC Office of Counsel

If you are like many DESC employees you've probably participated or been asked to participate as a speaker or panel member at a conference, symposium or other event. If the event is sponsored by the federal government, there really aren't any ethics issues associated with participating in the event in your official capacity.

However, employees are sometimes asked to participate in an event sponsored by non-federal entities. An entity is "non-federal" if it is not a federal governmental organization, even if most or all of its membership or its funding come from the federal government. If the event is sponsored by a non-federal entity, there are some additional ethical issues that you must consider. They may seem a little complicated, but DESC's ethics counsel can help guide you through the maze.

Your participation as a speaker at non-federal entity sponsored events is governed by the Department of Defense Joint Ethics Regulation. The JER is DoD's single, uniform source of standards of ethical conduct and ethics guidance.

Many non-federal entity sponsored conferences are training events. If the primary purpose of your presentation is training or education of DoD personnel and those personnel make up more than 20 percent of the audience, there are no ethics issues triggered by your participation in the event.

What if your presentation is not for the purpose of training or educating DoD personnel? Can you still participate? The JER allows agency heads to provide employees in their official capacities to participate in non-federal entity events under certain conditions. For instance, it must be appropriate to associate DoD with the event, and DoD must be able and willing to provide the same support to comparable events sponsored by similar non-federal entities.

A key consideration is whether admission to the event is free or if there is a fee for attendance. For you to participate, admission to the event must be free, or if there is an admission fee, the amount of the fee must reasonably cover only the costs of sponsoring the event as a whole or that portion of the event that receives DoD support. Failing that, DoD support must be incidental to the entire event.





Here is the part where it probably looks like you need a doctorate in mathematics to figure out the rules. Worldwide, admission fees of \$645 per day or less for all attendees are considered reasonable costs. Upward adjustment of the \$645 per day fee is possible, but only by the percentage amount that the per diem rate for the conference location exceeds the per diem rate for the District of Columbia. No downward adjustment is required.

Another quirk about this rule is that the highest rate charged is used for purposes of the \$645 per day standard. For example, if there is a \$500 per day registration fee, but a late registration fee of \$675, the \$675 fee is the number used for the calculation. Since the \$675 fee is greater than the \$645 per day standard, the admission fee exceeds what would cover the reasonable costs for sponsoring the event.

So, what do you do if the conference fee exceeds the \$645 per day standard? Can you still speak at the conference? Only if the support provided by DoD is deemed “incidental to the event.”

“Incidental support” has a negligible or minimal impact on the planning, scheduling, functioning, or intended audience draw for the event. If the audience would attend the event even if DoD did not participate, DoD participation is deemed incidental. DoD support is also deemed incidental if the percentage of DoD speakers or participants at the event is 20 percent or less. For example, if there are only three DoD speakers at a conference and there are dozens of non-DoD speakers, that is incidental support.

Remember, you don’t need to be able to recite these rules from memory. You just need to bear them in mind and be aware of the ethics implications when you are asked to participate as a speaker or panel member at conferences and other events.

Consideration of these rules will be added to DESC’s Conference Attendance and Feedback



template to help you make sure you comply with the rules. For more information, contact DESC Ethics Counsel Danica Irvine.

# DESC Europe Mediterranean sub-region realigns

**By Navy Cmdr. Charles Colbert**  
**DESC Europe and Africa**

Defense Energy Support Center Europe and Africa has finalized steps to realign its Mediterranean Office at Camp Darby, Italy, and its operational functions, within DESC-Europe and Africa after more than 16 years in operation.

## Changes

The realignment, which was completed April 12, was initiated to optimize manpower and to synchronize operations on a theater-level, said DESC-E&A Commander Army Col. Stephen Walker.

A Navy commander billet in DESC Europe Mediterranean will be re-allocated to the DESC- E&A Operations Division as a Navy lieutenant commander billet and moved to the DESC-E&A operations center at Kleber Kaserne, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Massimo Fornaini, an Italian local national employee, will remain at Camp Darby as DESC-E&A Operations Division's Italy operations officer. The remaining Mediterranean operations and administrative support billets will continue to transform into positions where needed elsewhere within DESC-E&A. The office at Camp Darby will remain open and serve as the operating location for Mediterranean quality assurance issues; from that office, John Guzzardi will supervise a team of seven quality management professionals. Three will remain at Camp Darby; two remain located at Naval Station Rota, Spain, and two remain at Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy.

## History

The DESC Europe Mediterranean office was activated in February 1993 after elements of the Army's 340th Quartermaster Battalion and then-Defense Fuel Supply Center Quality Assurance Residencies in Naples and Sigonella were merged to form the Defense Fuel Region Europe Italy Residency, later known as Defense Fuels Office Italy.

The office began its operations under its first commander, Army Lt. Col. John Davies, from the 200th Materiel Management Command in Vicenza. The billet was eventually converted to a Navy Supply Corps billet. Lt. Cmdr. Leo Grasilli, became the first Navy officer to command the unit.

Defense Fuels Office Ankara, Turkey, and DFO Madrid, Spain, were aligned with DFO Italy to provide the service components with a single point of contact for Mediterranean Class IIIB operations, inventory management, international agreements and quality assurance/surveillance

functions. When DFSC was re-designated Defense Energy Support Center in 1998, DFO Italy became DESC Europe Mediterranean under the command of DESC Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany.

During its 16 years, the DESC Europe Mediterranean office oversaw operations and support to the components of the U.S. European Command in Italy, Greece, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and the Mediterranean Sea. Five Navy Supply Corps officers have commanded DESC Europe Mediterranean – Lt. Cmdr. Mike LaVigna, Lt. Cmdr. John McVeigh, Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Turner, Cmdr. Andrea Lemon and its final commander, Cmdr. Charles Colbert.

The office provided management oversight of a variety of international agreements for both Air Force and Naval bulk petroleum support at more than 16 Defense Fuel Support Points and liaison support of three host nation pipelines — the Northern Italian Pipeline System, the Turkish NATO Pipeline System and the Spanish Pipeline System. In 2003, DESC Turkey was realigned under DESC Europe Operations Division due to the operational demands of the Northern Ground Line of Communication petroleum supply chain into Iraq that was established for Task Force Restore Iraqi Oil following Operation Iraqi Freedom.

## Legacy

During its 16 year existence, the Mediterranean Office has provided pivotal support to multiple operations in EUCOM, U.S. Central Command and U.S. Africa Command theaters of operation.

## 16 years of DESC Europe Mediterranean support:

### Operation Deny Flight 1993 to 1995

Enforcement of U.N. No-Fly Zone in Bosnia and Herzegovina, close air support, and coercive air strike in Bosnia

### Operation Vigilant Warrior 1994

Response to Iraqi buildup along Kuwait border

### Operation Deliberate Force 1995

NATO air strikes on Bosnian Serb military forces

*Defense Logistics Agency Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson, center, gathered with members of the enterprise team for a photo in the DLA Central conference room on MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., Jan. 22. Also pictured are, from the left front row, Bill Dunphy, Jim Sales and Shelli Petrohoy, all of Defense Energy Support Center Middle East; and Brenda Bush-Sayre, Air Force Maj. Alan Alsop, Bill Wheatley and Navy Capt. Richard Lancaster, all of DLA-C. Pictured in the back row, from the left are Don Dean, DESC-ME; Dave Ray, DESC liaison Joint Petroleum Office; Army Col. Tom Kelly, DESC-ME commander; Thompson; Bill Bennett, DLA-C deputy; and Gary Handley, Eric Gardner and Jerry Chism, all of DLA-C.*



# Thompson visits customers and enterprise teams in Tampa

**By DESC Middle East**

Defense Logistics Agency Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson traveled to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., in January to visit key customers and members of DLA and Defense Energy Support Center Middle East teams.

The admiral met with leaders of U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command to get feedback on the quality of support the commands were receiving and to discuss any concerns. Customer visits are a key element of DLA's customer relationship management program.

Thompson also visited the offices and staffs of DLA enterprise elements there in Tampa. In addition to the DESC Middle East team, representatives of DLA Central, Document Automation and Production Service, Defense Distribution and Mapping Activity and the SOCOM liaison officer met with him.

Thompson wanted to meet with principle players before traveling to the CENTCOM area of responsibility.

## **Operation Desert Strike 1996**

Missile strikes on Iraq

## **Operation Northern Watch 1997 to 2003**

Enforcement of No-Fly Zone over northern Iraq

## **Operations Phoenix Scorpion I & II 1997 to 1998**

Support to U.N. weapons inspectors in Iraq

## **Operation Resolute Response 1998**

Support to U.S. embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania

## **Operation Desert Fox 1998**

Air strikes on Iraq

## **Operation Allied Forces JTF Noble Anvil 1999**

Air war over Serbia to withdraw forces from Kosovo

## **Operation Enduring Freedom 2001 to the present**

Execution of the Global War on Terrorism

## **Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003 to the present**

Invasion and occupation of Iraq

# Algae-to-oil technology

By Donald Martin, DESC-WE and Douglas Martin, DESC-QT

“On arid lands there will spring up industrial colonies without smoke and without smokestacks; forests of glass tubes will extend over the plains and glass buildings will rise everywhere; inside of these will take place the photochemical processes that hitherto have been the guarded secret of the plants, but that will have been mastered by human industry, which will know how to make them bear even more abundant fruit than nature....”

Sounds futuristic? Maybe not for today’s scientists, but when Italian scientist Giacomo Ciamician hypothesized about the powers of algae in 1912, he did so in isolation. Today, however, scientists are on the brink of algae energy commercialization.

Algae are the original oil producers. In fact, some scientists argue that a great percentage of the world’s petroleum deposits consist largely of the fossilized remains of prehistoric algal blooms.

Algae possess internal biochemical pathways that synthesize oil more efficiently than any other known natural or engineered process. Some algal species, under the right conditions, can produce up to 70 percent of their mass as oil.

For all of these reasons, it’s not surprising that many

groups are trying to exploit algae to make renewable biofuels.

What if you could take a 150-million-year process of making oil and condense it to a matter of days? And, then, could the end product be non-toxic, safe and powerful enough to propel jet airplanes? The people in the algae-to-oil field seem to think so.

As a demonstrated technology, companies are working to meet or exceed the specifications of the industry standard for aviation turbine fuel, ASTM D 1655, which sets requirements for the freezing point, viscosity, flashpoint, density and stability for conventional jet petroleum. Many companies have been formed by entrepreneurs with the hope of succeeding at the difficult endeavor and becoming a key producer of this renewable fuel within the United States.

## Producing algae

Algae can be produced through several methods including closed ponds, open ponds (wild growth), within bioreactors (heterotrophic or photosynthetic), and other technological means. These processes are each unique in type and work toward the same goal.

Within these methods of producing algae are two processes: photosynthesis and fermentation.

Production via photosynthesis can be achieved in a closed-loop system or an open-loop system.

In an open system, the algae grow in open ponds. This production method can decrease the required start up and production costs, which gives open systems an initial economic advantage. However, an open system ultimately may cost more due to the

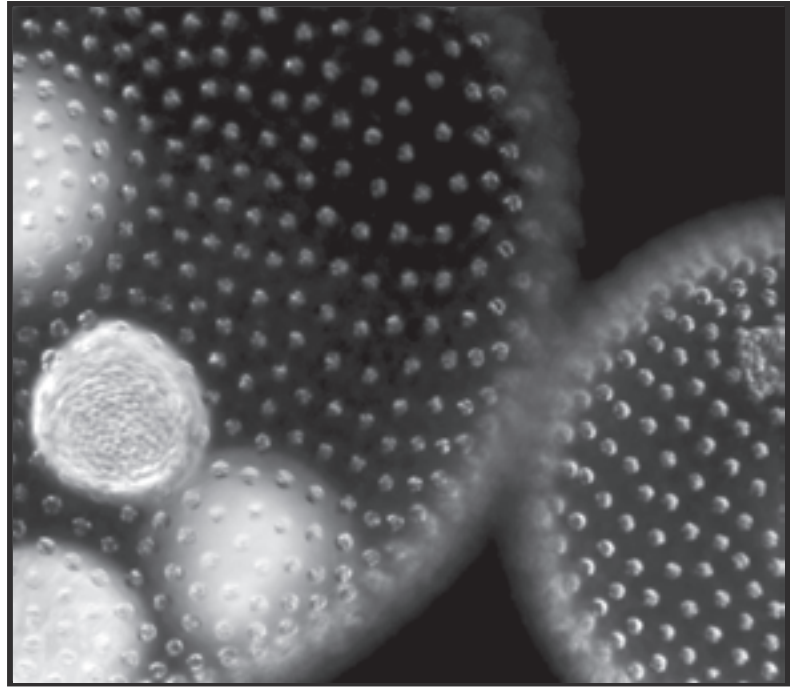


*An artist's rendition of an algae production farm. (Graphic courtesy of Colorado State University)*



# growing

*Algae  
under the  
microscope.*



vulnerabilities of contamination, reduced quality control and reduced efficiencies. In an open-pond system, the majority of the algae bloom forms at the surface of the pond, which reduces the effectiveness of the remainder of the algae plant below the bloom. In addition, this form of algae growth can allow other strains of algae to enter the system, which may be less desirable due to their oil content, and allows them to flourish while the desired strain suffers. Finally, in open ponds there is no way to protect the algae from predation by microorganisms such as those found in the family Rotifera. These effects can be devastating to the efficiency and effectiveness of biofuels production.

In closed-loop photosynthesis production, the loop can be achieved through the use of vertical or horizontal tubing, flat glass panels, covered ponds and covered troughs. In each method, the algae producer aims to provide continuous light and an optimal temperature range to increase fertility and lower the production risks through greater control. If successful, closed systems could see a longer growing season and a stronger rate of return over open systems.

Finally, some companies are producing algal oil by means of fermentation. This process requires a special type of algae that can grow without sunlight. These strains of algae can consume, for example, cellulosic material, such as agriculture residues or high-productivity grasses, such as switchgrass.

Different feedstocks can be used to efficiently produce a variety of algal oils, which are integral ingredients in a variety of green cleaning supplies, cosmetics and processed foods.

The fermentation process introduces complications regarding land use. It is important to use feedstocks, which have little or no impact on food supply, and also to have a feedstock source close to the facility to reduce the need to transport. This, in effect, will further lower the life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.

Feedstocks must be chosen to ensure a year-round supply or else an ample amount of the feedstock must be stored to ensure that production can continue year-round. Ultimately, this process allows for the conversion of biomass into oil very quickly and efficiently — all without sunlight. With even greater control over the process and reduced need to consider climatic conditions, companies leveraging this technology have the ability to produce algal oil around the world in standard industrial facilities.

## Extracting oil

Regardless of the method of production, after the algae have reached the optimal size, the algal oil must be extracted from the algae cells.

There are several technologies available to accomplish this, depending on the type of algae and its cell structure. It can be as simple as pressing the oil out with an expeller press, or it can rely on chemical extraction methodologies. Oil can be obtained through the use of a liquid hexane solvent; or carbon dioxide can be liquefied and used as a solvent in a process called supercritical fluid extraction.

## Processing oil

After extraction, the algal oil is ready for transport to a refinery. Existing petroleum refineries can process this algal oil neat or blend it with other products to yield renewable transportation fuels that are similar to their petroleum-derived equivalents. One of the major focuses throughout the algae industry is to produce a renewable fuel so similar that it can effectively be “dropped” into the fuel supply chain as it is currently set up, with no modification required to the distribution, point of sale, or equipment in which the fuel will be used.

Moving into the future, algae will become increasingly important. Algae is already an important ingredient in more than 60 percent of the products in your grocery basket including items such as toothpaste, ice cream and salad dressings. You will also find it in new pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. And, someday it could be in the Defense Energy Support Center’s fuel supply chain, providing a “green” energy source to the federal government and increased energy security for the future.

# DESC team discovers tank's history of support

By Richard B. Knapp  
DESC Japan

DESC Japan Commander Air Force Lt. Col. Carmen Goyette continued a series of ongoing site visits and customer outreach in March. Petroleum Distribution Supervisor Army Sgt. 1st Class Caleb Whitaker and Quality Assurance Specialist Richard Knapp accompanied her to Western Japan, where they learned a unique bit of history.

A highlight to the trip was the final stop at the U.S. Navy's Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Yokosuka at Sasebo. The FISC facilities operate as a little-known but important resource. Customers may not be aware of their importance for real world and contingency bulk petroleum supply, or their deep reach back into 20th century history.

FISC operates three dispersed Defense Fuel Support Points in the vicinity of Sasebo: Akasaki, Yokose and Iorizaki. Getting to all three storage facilities is possible by land, but in fair weather it is easiest by water. As with other fuel terminals in Japan, some of the tanks and infrastructure predate World War II. While certain areas are still operating, others have long gone out of service. Tunnels through hillsides may be the route to the storage areas, or even the access to the tanks themselves.

A particular item of note was at DFSP Iorizaki: cut and cover Tank I-4, one of four tanks storing aviation and marine diesel fuel for U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet. This tank

was originally used by the Japanese Imperial Navy through World War II.

The original Tank I-4 was put into service in 1925. At that time, in the days following World War I, steel was in high demand by Japanese shipyards, which were building replacements for vessels lost by the French and Italian navies to German submarines. As a result, and to avoid the expense of scarce materials, I-4 was constructed of plain concrete without reinforcing bars. Construction was performed mostly by domestic and foreign unskilled laborers. Established as a cut and cover tank, camouflaged from air attack, its top cover was a concrete slab covered with approximately 24 inches of topsoil. This design also minimized product loss to evaporation; it is 10 times more effective than normal above-ground storage tanks.

Following World War II, U.S. forces operated the facilities and converted the tanks from heavy oil to the storage of light oil for Navy customers. By the 1970s, the 50-year-old tanks began to show their age and leaks developed through the concrete-cast joints. The U.S. Navy used a glass coating to repair these faults, which was good for 10 to 12 years, but eventually the need for more permanent repairs could not be ignored.

In response, agreement was made with the government of Japan to reconstruct the tanks using the Facility Improvement Program. Tank I-4 was the first of the tanks at Sasebo to be rebuilt this way.

The plan involved using the original concrete tank shell to establish new storage inside it. In 1980 the tank covers and pillars were removed. The concrete bottoms and walls were reinforced with anchors to allow construction of a new tank within a tank. New tank walls made of pre-stressed concrete with steel lining were



An aerial view of Defense Fuel Support Point Iorizaki, Japan.  
(Courtesy photo)

## Old tank dimensions:

124.6 meters x 88.7 meters x 7.2 meters deep  
[409 feet x 291 feet x 24 feet deep]

## New tank dimensions:

121.1 meters x 85.2 meters x 6.4 meters deep  
[397 feet x 279 feet x 21 feet deep]

constructed within the old. The outer walls of the new cofferdams, empty chambers surrounding the tank to allow for repairs, are the former inside wall of the previous tank. Oil leak and gas sensors were installed inside the cofferdam as safety devices of the tanks. This design combined air tightness with the durability to withstand earthquakes and other forces of nature.

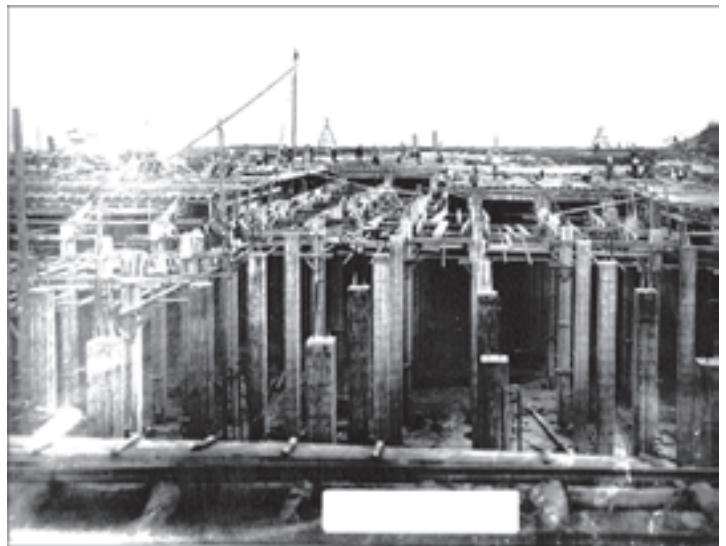
The new Tank I-4 was put into service in 1982. The area encompassed by the welded steel outer shell equals 140,000 square feet. The roof is reinforced with concrete and the floor covers an 111,000 square feet area. It has three transfer pumps, seven breathing vents, six internal ladders, oil-water separator system and external cofferdam

If that's not enough, what makes this tank unique is simple: with a storage capacity of 420,900 barrels, it remains the largest fuel container within the Department of Defense. For perspective, the capacity of this single tank dwarfs many terminals. On its own, it approaches the storage capacity of the former Pohang DFSP in Korea, which had thirty-four 10,000 barrel above-ground storage tanks and three 50,000 barrel underground storage tanks.

So while its capabilities and history may remain relatively unknown, Tank I-4 at DFSP Iorizaki stands as an important example of commitment to customer needs and the warfighter during peacetime and hostilities.

The U.S. Navy fuel operations in Sasebo are managed in Yokosuka by Navy Lt. Cmdr. Matt Holmanthrough and his dedicated Sasebo workforce of 102 Japanese Master Labor Contract workers, 10 U.S. Navy personnel and one federal civilian. Sasebo stores more than 200 million gallons of Defense Working Capital Fund product for U.S. forces.

*Editor's note: Sasebo Fuels Director Bob Carroza and senior MLCs Yasunaga-san and Kinoshita-san contributed to this article.*



*Above, interior tank construction at Iorizaki, Japan, circa 1920s.*



*Below, tank construction at Iorizaki, Japan, circa 1920s.*

*Left to right, Outgoing Fuels Director Ron Nelson, Incoming Fuels Director Bob Carroza, Defense Energy Support Center Japan Commander Air Force Lt. Col. Carmen Goyette, Army Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Caleb Whitaker, General Manager M. Yasunaga, Deputy Fuel Director and Amercian Petroleum Institute Navy Chief Petty Officer of the Year Chief Hirahara, and Richard Knapp.*



# DESC supports exercises in Eastern Europe

By Clancy Duncan  
DESC Europe and Africa

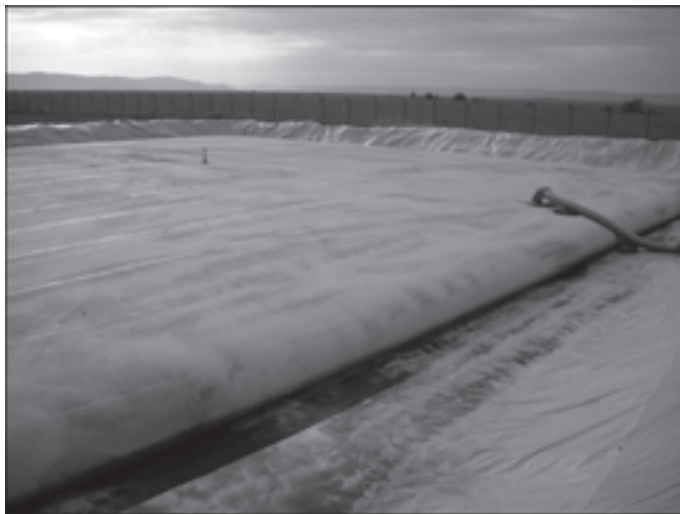
Defense Energy Support Center Europe and Africa, in close coordination with DESC's Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit, recently provided fuel support to three U. S. Air Forces in Europe exercises in Bulgaria and Romania. The exercises presented some unique challenges for them.

In March and April, C-130 Hercules cargo planes from the 86th Air Wing, Ramstein Air Base, Germany; A-10 Thunderbolt II close air support aircraft from the 52nd Fighter Wing, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany; and F-15 Eagle jet fighters from the 494th Fighter Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom, all deployed to austere locations in Bulgaria and Romania. The 86th and 52nd deployed to Bezmer Air Base, Bulgaria, and the 494th deployed to Campia Turzii Air Base, Romania. The primary mission was to train and foster partnerships with fellow NATO air forces. All required fuel support.

Although exercises in these former Eastern Bloc countries are well beyond their infancy, veteran planners know fuel support in Eastern Europe presents interesting and unique challenges.

The primary challenge is lack of permanent bulk fuel storage infrastructure at the exercise sites. The vendor must deliver bulk fuel into expeditionary bladders or perform tank truck-to-mobile refueler downloads.

The lack of permanent bulk storage necessitates precise planning and synchronization of tank-truck delivery schedules via intensive coordination with the unit, the host nation base security and the vendor. Little margin for error exists



*U.S. Air Force 210K fuel bladder at Campia Turzii, Romania.*



*U.S. Air Force A-10 aircraft refuels at Bezmer Air Base, Bulgaria.*

in the supply chain.

In support of President George W. Bush's trip to the NATO summit in Bucharest in 2008, a USAFE unit installed a 210,000 gallon bladder on the Romania Air Force Base, Campia Turzii. This bladder has since been used by two other units to support USAFE weapons training deployments to Campia Turzii.

At Bezmer AB, commercial tank trucks deliver their loads directly into U.S. Air Force R-11 mobile refuelers. The fuel is then circulated within the R-11 to achieve the two required filtrations, before servicing the aircraft. This method, although effective, is time consuming.

Another challenge is additization to bring Jet A1 fuel to JP8 fuel specifications. Even though it's primarily the military service component's responsibility to additize, DESC-E&A assists to ensure mission success. DESC-E&A provides additives to meet short-notice requirements from a small contingency stock of Fuel System Icing Inhibitor and Corrosion Inhibitor stored at Defense Fuel Support Point Speyer, Germany. DESC-E&A has also assisted by providing transportation of the required additives to the exercise site.

Additionally, DESC-E&A and Direct Delivery worked with Air BP to procure and provide JP8 at select locations in Romania.

Planning fuel support for any exercise in this theater requires a U.S. European Command Joint Petroleum Office-validated fuel requirement be submitted to DESC-E&A for staffing. A EUCOM-validated requirement ensures the tactical units properly planned their exercise to account for the challenges

they will face with the lack of permanent bulk storage and any additization requirements.

Once a validated requirement is shaped by the EUCOM JPO and the respective service component staffs, the DESC-E&A Operations team will analyze and assess the supportability options and either return it to the JPO for more information or submit to the appropriate business units at DESC Fort Belvoir for staffing and sourcing. In the meantime, DESC-E&A provides weekly updates to both the JPO and DESC to ensure awareness of the request and any pending actions.

In order to ensure maximum support and ensure mission success, DESC&EA assigns a project officer to any exercise that poses unique or extraordinary challenges. The project officer synchronizes and integrates efforts of the EUCOM JPO, DESC-E&A Operations, DESC-E&A Inventory Management, DESC-E&A Quality Management, DESC-E&A Transportation, the Direct Delivery Fuels Business Unit, military service components, the vendor, and the exercise unit. The project officer may deploy with the unit to oversee initial deliveries and ensure the unit is postured for success.

These responsibilities create a unique experience for the project officer, one that broadens exposure to the joint, international, NATO and tactical environments.

Once contracts are awarded, fuel requirements are sourced and ready for execution; it requires aggressive and intensive communication among all parties to ensure timely fuel support throughout the duration of the exercise. Once fuel daily consumption rates are determined and a delivery schedule is established, the project officer will execute daily telephonic conferences with the contractor and the unit to ensure deliveries are coordinated. When the fuel arrives on site and is downloaded, receipts are recorded and provided to the



A map of the Eastern European locations where Defense Energy Support Center Europe and Africa supported exercises last spring.

DESC-E&A Inventory Management Branch for invoicing.

Even though DESC-EA, in coordination with Direct Delivery, has made significant strides in improving bulk fuel support options in Romania and Bulgaria, these former Eastern Bloc countries still pose many challenges. These include international border crossings, customs and tax dynamics, access into foreign military bases, and employment of expeditionary equipment. All challenges serve as an excellent training opportunity for the unit and the DESC team as DESC hones its capabilities to provide quality fuel, in the right quantity, location and time in any environment.



A commercial tank truck downloads fuel to a U.S. Air Force mobile refueler at Bezmer Air Base, Bulgaria.

# QAR observes ship-to-ship fuel transfer on high seas

By Mark Firmani and George Wilson  
DESC Guam

Quality Assurance Representative George Wilson, DESC Guam's Singapore office, had the rare opportunity to observe a unique operation in support of fuel acquisition for DESC Middle East customers May 2. In the execution of his routine duties to provide quality assurance of product being received from a supply source, Wilson witnessed his first ship-to-ship transfer operation.

An STS transfer is the transferring of a bulk cargo, i.e. crude oil, liquified gas or bulk petroleum products, between vessels positioned alongside each other on the open sea, either stationary or underway.

For this particular operation, the Marine Tanker M.V. Torm Tamar, a 60,000 dead weight ton petroleum tanker loaded from a refinery in India, was considered the source tank on which Wilson performed his quality assurance duties. However, because the M.V. Torm Tamar was too large to enter the destination discharge port, 310,000 barrels of Jet A1 fuel had to be transferred to the M.V. Agamemnon II, a 30,000 DWT tanker, for subsequent delivery to a DESC defense fuel support point in the Middle East.

For approximately 12 hours, the STS transfer of Jet A1 cargo took place through two large diameter hoses while heavy-duty fenders were moored as buffers between the

vessels. All the while, the tanker propellers were turning to stabilize the tankers into the prevailing current. This type of operation is highly specialized and can be high risk if not performed by skilled individuals using suitable, well-maintained equipment.

Although performed throughout the world today, STS transfer operations are not as common as they were in the past. Because of this, the potential safety and environmental hazards associated with the STS transfers may not be fully understood by all personnel assigned to conduct the operation.

As a result, intensive coordination and rehearsals were conducted several weeks in advance of this actual operation to ensure that all personnel involved had a common understanding on the following major aspects of an STS transfer.

## Major aspects of a safe STS transfer:

- careful selection of the transfer area, bearing in mind probable weather conditions
- thorough preparation and checking of all equipment well in advance
- agreement on who has overall charge throughout the mooring procedure
- pre-planning of mooring arrangement
  - need for clear and effective communication between ships
  - use of approved checklists at all stages
  - preparation of necessary emergency plans
  - decisions on initial and subsequent cargo transfer rates
  - careful monitoring during cargo transfer to ensure moorings remain appropriate and no pollution is occurring
  - careful uncoupling and unmooring



*A fuel transfer between Marine Tanker M.V. Torm Tamar and tanker M.V. Agamemnon II takes place on the high seas May 2. (Photo courtesy of BP Singapore Quality Assurance Representatives Jeffrey Gwee and Alfred Ponniah)*

● use of the Oil Companies International Marine Forum guidelines, the International Chamber of Shipping guidelines, and the STS Transfer Guide to ensure safe and trouble-free operations

Because of careful planning, the STS transfer concluded without incident, ensuring timely and quality resupply for our DESC customers in the Middle East with a little help from the DESC Pacific QARs.

*Two tankers maintain close proximity during a ship-to-ship transfer of fuel in support of fuel acquisition for DESC Middle East customers May 2. (Photo courtesy of BP Singapore Quality Assurance Representatives Jeffrey Gwee and Alfred Ponniah)*



# Senior leaders focus, sync actions across center

**By Susan Declercq Brown**  
**DESC Public Affairs**

Defense Energy Support Center senior leaders met in Gettysburg, Pa., Mar. 31-Apr. 2 to focus on the center's strategic plan and to evaluate the impact of DESC's expanding role on the organization.

"As we continue to embrace alternative fuels and renewable energy technologies, this conference allows us to ensure we are all moving forward together," said DESC Director Kim Huntley. "I believe we all returned from the conference with a greater awareness of the many challenges that lie ahead for DESC."

The first order of business at the conference was a short review and discussion on the development of the 2009 Director's Guidance, which was then in coordination and later released in May. This guidance outlines the organization's strategic plan as well as our continued support of DLA's four strategic focus areas.

Col. Jeffrey Kelley, commander of the 101st Sustainment Brigade, Fort Campbell, Ky., and former commander of Joint Logistics Command – Afghanistan, briefed the group on the many challenges of sustaining logistical support to Operation Enduring Freedom. Kelley personally thanked the group for the outstanding efforts to keep the fuel flowing in such a challenging environment.

The leaders split into three teams to look at DESC's current organization and discuss whether the structure can effectively support future roles in alternative fuels and



*Army Col. Jeffrey Kelley, commander of the 101st Sustainment Brigade, briefs DESC's senior leaders on the challenges of sustaining logistical support to Operation Enduring Freedom.*

renewable energy and, if not, to recommend alternatives. Several business units and staff offices are working to bring together new opportunities for procurements, research expansion, and interagency and customer support.

"It is now time for us to focus on developing a comprehensive energy engagement strategy to pull it all together – in a sense, synching our actions across the center for the greatest possible results," Huntley declared.

Off-sites are held periodically to ensure internal lines of communication remain open.

The 2009 guidance is available in the DESC Director's Corner on DLA Today.

# DESC-leveraged ESPCs make

**By Susan Declercq Brown**  
**DESC Public Affairs**

The Defense Energy Support Center is helping defense installations reduce their environmental footprint, meet federal energy goals established by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and Executive Order 13423, finance energy-related construction and improvements with no money down, and obtain predictable payment plans.

Help comes by way of DESC's Energy Enterprise Business Unit, which procures and administers task orders under the Department of Energy's Energy Savings Performance Contracts.

"These contracts have been invaluable in helping DoD meet its energy goals," explained Christine Bond Jawish, chief of DESC's ESPC Contracting Division. The private sector has invested more than \$2.3 billion in federal energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements, which have resulted in more than 18 trillion British thermal units saved annually and more than \$7.1 billion energy cost savings for the federal government, she said, citing DoE statistics.

ESPCs leverage private sector expertise and capital, allowing government organizations to achieve energy conservation goals without up-front capital costs. Under ESPCs, contractors are paid from the savings that result from energy conservation measures implemented by the contractor.

## Experience

The Energy Enterprise Business Unit, or DESC-E, has been procuring and administering ESPC contracts since 1999 as part of its Defense Reform Initiative Directive 21 responsibilities to help the military services reduce energy demand. The team has procured nearly \$400 million in ESPC contracts.

The center wants to expand its ESPC program to help more installations meet the challenges of energy conserva-

tion goals without financial burden, said Bond Jawish.

In December, DoE enhanced the ESPC process by awarding new "indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity" contracts to 16 companies with expertise in energy efficiency and renewable projects. DESC may now competitively place task orders with these companies.

## Advantages

The new IDIQ contract offers several advantages including: terminology revised to be in line with statute and industry practices; incorporation of new legislative requirements; the addition of programmatic improvement; and accounting lessons learned, said Bond Jawish.

Another improvement to the program now enables DESC to put ESPCs in place worldwide.

Under an ESPC, the contractor conducts energy audits to determine where energy consumption can be reduced and savings achieved, and to determine a firm, fixed-price based on the anticipated savings. The contractor designs, constructs and obtains necessary financing for an energy savings project, and the benefitted organization makes payments over time from the savings reduction in its utility bills. The contractor guarantees the energy savings, and the aggregate annual payment to the contractor and the utilities cannot exceed the amount the organization would have paid for utilities without the ESPC. The contractor must verify savings each year. When the contract ends, the organization retains the continued savings.

Some contracts have terms as long as 25 years. Others, can provide a relatively quick payback.

## Success stories

A project at Fort Hood, Texas, one of eight DESC has procured and administered, replaced lighting in the motor pool — 52 buildings — with more efficient lighting using a \$1.83-million private sector investment to be paid back over 17 years.

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## The Defense Energy Support Center's ESPC Contracting Division helps its customers meet federally mandated energy conservation and renewable energy goals.

### A break down of phased goals:

- Cut energy use by 3 percent (of 2003 use) per year from 2007 to 2015.
- Increase renewable energy to not less than 3 percent of total electricity use in 2009, not less than 5 percent in 2010-2012, and not less than 7.5 percent in 2013 and thereafter – with at least half from new sources each year.
- Reduce water use by 2 percent per year 2008-2015.



# energy goals achievable

Fort Hood officials say they avoid \$276,000 in costs each year. And, there are additional benefits, as well.

Before the retrofit, lighting intensity in the bays averaged 14 foot-candles; bay doors had to be left open to improve visibility, and on cloudy days lighting was still insufficient. Leaving the doors open also created an expensive loss of heat and cooling.

After the three-day retrofit, lighting quality increased to 34 foot-candles, no energy was lost to open doors, and the work environment was safer and more efficient.

A satisfied customer, Fort Hood is currently working on its third ESPC with DESC. The installation has taken an innovative approach, leveraging technology to manage its facilities and utilities through a Web-based system – the first of its kind to be successfully implemented by the Army. Fort Hood worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to implement an open communications system using a single operating platform for facilities and utilities management.

In fiscal 2007, the system generated more than \$200,000 in cost savings; and savings increase as more facilities are added to the system, said Scott Trotier, a contractor on the DESC ESPC team who provides project management and technical support. The system serves as a benchmark for the Army and helps reduce dependence on multiple-proprietary, incompatible control systems that cost millions of dollars to manage and maintain.

## Energy improvements

DESC ESPC projects include the predictable improvements—like lighting, cooling units and systems, heating units, control systems, central heating and cooling plants, demand-limiting systems, utility monitoring systems, generators and cooling towers. But, there is a new emphasis on renewable sources as well, including current projects using geothermal (or ground source) heat pumps to provide heat to commercial and housing areas on Forts AP Hill, Va.; Meade, Md.; Hamilton, N.Y.; and Carlisle, Pa.

“Several installations have expressed interest in solar, wind, biomass and hydroelectric projects as well as comprehensive



*Members of the Defense Energy Support Center's Energy Savings Performance Contracts Contracting team stand behind the McNamara Complex Building on Fort Belvoir, Va. From the left are James Dennis, contracting officer; Marten Wallace, contract specialist, Christine Bond Jawish, division chief, Douglas Kennard, contract specialist, Graham Fisher, contract specialist, and Richard O'Neill, contract specialist. (Photo by Lawrence "Robbie" Robinson)*

‘whole building’ projects,” said Bond Jawish. “We’re working right now with installations on several new potential projects.”

Although military installations and services can generate their own task orders, Bond Jawish said, most lack DESC’s expertise and its long-developed relationship with DoE.

“It’s a daily challenge to properly administer these task orders,” said Bond Jawish, “but over our ten years of experience with ESPCs, we’ve developed some very specialized expertise and are very familiar with the numerous issues that can arise during procurement and administration,” she explained.

DESC-E has an experienced team of eight government employees and contractors dedicated to the ESPC program. “We have a good partnership with DoE, and we work closely with their contractors and technical project facilitators to leverage technical resources,” Bond Jawish said.

DESC has plans to expand these services in the future, Bond Jawish said. In addition to expanding ESPC procurement and administrative services for the DoD community, DESC plans to expand the services to include other private financing vehicles.

For more information, visit <http://www.desc.dla.mil>.

# **DESC Japan reaches out to customers**

**By Richard Knapp and Richard Dennis  
DESC Japan**

Defense Energy Support Center Japan quality assurance representatives participated in the customer-focused DLA Day at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, Mar. 19.

DLA Day gathered Defense Logistics Agency representatives to provide information and address customer concerns. Participating offices included DESC Japan, Defense Mapping Agency, Defense Reutilization & Marketing Office, Defense Distribution Center, Document Automation and Production Service, Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan, and Defense Supply Center Philadelphia Pacific Region. In addition, the non-DLA organization Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Yokosuka was represented.

Richard Dennis and Richard Knapp represented DESC.

This was the first time DLA has sponsored this kind of activity on the base.

DESC Japan created poster boards to present DLA goals, the DESC Japan mission, and a graphic that showed customer locations. A continuous loop video about DESC was part of the display.

The DESC Japan team created a handout in the style of the DLA trifold and distributed that as a reference to customers for the services and products DESC provides, as well as for points of contact.

Prospero Rivera of Defense Distribution Yokosuka Japan coordinated events on site.

## **QAR familiarization visit becomes**

**By Air Force Lt. Col. Carmen Goyette  
DESC Japan commander**

“Another trip to Chiba” used to be a standard line from the quality assurance representatives in Defense Energy Support Center Japan. But, a most recent trip to Chiba, Japan, was less than routine. Taking the commander along helped turn a routine trip into a supplier appreciation event.

ExxonMobil, through the Kyokuto Petroleum Industries Refinery located in Tokyo-area Chiba, provides water-borne shipments of diesel fuel under a posts, camps and station contract supporting Yokosuka Naval Base. In late 2008 and early 2009, this required frequent QAR visits to Chiba to test the product from the source and witness testing and loading of the product into the barges that would take it to the Navy customer.

I asked if I could go with one of the QARs to see the refinery and watch the process. Unfortunately, I wasn’t able to visit until after the operation had been curtailed drastically—to about one shipment a month. The rapid de-escalation was due to the base’s transition to a co-generation power plant to allow the use of both fuel oil and liquefied petroleum gas, literally cutting the diesel requirement in half. Regardless, I still wanted to visit to see the operation and thank our suppliers.

QARs Richard Dennis and Richard Knapp worked to secure a date and then tossed a coin to see which one of

them would be in charge of the visit. Richard Dennis lost...I mean...won. As he coordinated with ExxonMobil representatives, the visit started to take on more of a distinguished visitor flavor. Although all I meant to do was watch the testing and barge operations, the ExxonMobil folks decided to add on a refinery tour, meeting and formal dinner. Flurries of e-mails and phone calls followed, outlining all the details.

Dennis and I arrived at Chiba mid-morning and were greeted by Hidemasa Shinjo, the chief coordinator and manager of the Government Business Department for ExxonMobil in Japan. I thanked him for his professional working relationship with our QARs and for his personal efforts over the months to streamline the sampling and testing processes for greatest efficiency and scheduling impact. We then went on a condensed tour of the refinery, stopping at the tanks that would be issuing our product. We climbed to the top, on a raw, windy day and took samples from the tank

After sampling the tank, we followed the samples to the lab. While there, I thanked the lead lab supervisor and his technicians for their quick and thorough work. Their process was streamlined and efficient, providing required results quickly to the QARs and making their visits smooth and productive. The lab techs seemed surprised and quietly delighted that the commander of all the U.S.-owned fuel in Japan, as described to them by Richard

More than 200 customers and potential customers of DESC attended DLA Day, and they provided very positive feedback. Issues and concerns collected included: bunker fuel service availability in the Pacific; use of the fuels exchange agreement to receive fuel from Japan during exercises; and effects of U.S.-managed real estate returning to the government of Japan. Dennis and Knapp collected any questions they couldn't answer and passed them to subject matter experts--international agreements specialist, DESC Middle Pacific, and the Sub-Area petroleum officer in Japan.

DLA Day at Yokosuka was a successful customer outreach effort. The event will be an ongoing opportunity to interact with customers, clarify the support DESC provides, and support the warfighter by energizing "the rising sun."



*Defense Energy Support Center Japan Quality Assurance Representatives explain DESC products and services to a browser at DLA Day, Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, Mar. 19. Richard Dennis, left, and Richard Knapp represented DESC.*

## supplier appreciation event

Dennis, was there, in person, thanking them for their work.

Next, we met with Suguru Kontani, Fuels Marketing, Industrial Fuels Nationwide sales manager and senior accounting manager; Makoto Kubota, chief coordinator fuel and lube specialist, Government Business Department; and Yuzo Suzuki, general manager, Government and Industrial Business Departments. I thanked all of them for their professional relationship with DESC and discussed past, present, and possible future business.

Later that evening, Kontani-san, Kubota-san, and Suzuki-san escorted us to dinner at a traditional "Kyoto style" restaurant. We had a convivial evening, with about 20 different courses of Japanese food, to include soybean-milk skin with rose salt. The interesting bit was that the Japanese gentlemen didn't know half of what we were eating or how to eat it, so we ended up with the wait staff walking us through each course. Skimming the soybean milk was especially tricky as you had to fan it first to make the skin, then peel it off and eat it. Yummy.

The three gentlemen described their work day: starting around 8:00 a.m. with an hour commute, and ending around 11:00 p.m. with an hour commute. I asked them when they were able to have family time. At first, they looked at me strangely, but then they laughed and said, "Sunday." They asked us both lots of questions about American life and were especially curious about

how I managed, as a woman with a family, to have a career as well.

The next morning we watched the barges being loaded. The weather was still raw, and we were concerned we might be delayed for heavy swells and high winds, but the barge captains managed to get moored alongside. We checked the barges for cleanliness and witnessed the samples. I thanked the barge captains for their quick work and expert seamanship. They also seemed surprised that DESC management was taking the time to thank them.

After the barge loads were complete, we followed the samples back to the lab to await the final test results. We inspected the storage area where the refinery kept past samples for DESC. All areas were neat, clean and obviously well-managed. The tests came back within specifications, and we wrapped up our visit by completing the ship paperwork that documented quality and quantity for the product shipped. Quality assurance mission complete, the barges were released to make their trek across Tokyo Bay and stand by for discharge at Yokosuka the following day.

I was amazed at how positively my meager thanks were received. It seems a small thing to thank our suppliers, but it goes a long way toward continued positive relations.



# DESC team displays wares at Quartermaster Symposium

By Cathy Hopkins  
Defense Supply Center Richmond Public Affairs

Defense Energy Support Center employees spoke with soldiers about Defense Logistics Agency warfighter support during the annual Quartermaster Symposium at Fort Lee, Va., June 15 to 19.

Randall Beltran, Susan Lowe and Gary Rouette came with a static display to showcase what DESC offers to support the warfighter. The field activity offers a large array of energy related needs for the federal government facilitating the cycle of storage and deployment of fuels and other energy sources.

“We have been spreading the word about energy, applications we have, benefits we offer, and how we interact with the Army,” Beltran said. “We have captured (the attention of the) entry-level soldier to the senior officer. We have had the total force come by as well as a variety of military specialty codes. They want to know what we do.”

Military contractors set up displays throughout the week showing equipment systems available. Much of the equipment carries consumable supply items from DLA, or one of its supply centers such as the Advanced Aviation Forward Area Refueling and the Ground Expeditionary Refueling Systems.

Also represented was Tank Automotive Command’s Petroleum and Water Systems showcasing their mobile laboratory – the Petroleum Quality Analysis System-Enhanced. The laboratory is used to ensure the quality of DLA fuel warfighters receive in theater.

“We want to get the word out to students here for (Advanced Individual Training),” said Rouette, who is a logistics systems analyst at DESC. “We are telling them about the DESC mission and the no-cost fuel training we offer. “



**Opposite page,** *Defense Energy Support Center employees, Randall Beltran (left), Susan Lowe and Gary Rouette man a static display showcasing what DESC offers to support the warfighter during the Quartermaster Symposium June 15-19 at Fort Lee, Va. (Photo by Cathy Hopkins)*

**Left,** *Defense Energy Support Center employee, Gary Rouette speaks with a Quartermaster School, Petroleum and Water Department, Marine Corps instructor about the Ground Expeditionary Refueling System during the Quartermaster Symposium June 15-19 at Fort Lee, Va. (Photo by Cathy Hopkins)*



**Right,** *Gary Rouette, Defense Energy Support Center, speaks with Quartermaster School Petroleum and Water Department instructor, Army Sgt. Randy Harcrow, about the Advanced Aviation Forward Area Refueling during the Quartermaster Symposium June 17 at Fort Lee, Va. (Photo by Cathy Hopkins)*



**Left,** *James Doherty, right, shows Gary Rouette the inside of a mobile fuel laboratory during the Quartermaster Symposium June 15-19 at Fort Lee, Va. The laboratory ensures fuel quality in theater for the military services. Rouette represented Defense Energy Support Center at the event. Doherty is from Tank Automotive Command's Petroleum and Water Systems. (Photo by Cathy Hopkins)*

# The Big Picture



## DLA director visits Red Hill



*Navy Lt. Cdr. Scott Herrick, right, operations officer for Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Pearl Harbor, gives Defense Logistics Agency Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson a tour of Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility, on Oahu, Hawaii, during Thompson's April 23 visit.*

**By Susan Declercq Brown**  
**DESC Public Affairs**

Defense Logistics Agency Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson traveled to Oahu, Hawaii, April 21-23, to get a first-hand look at how the agency is supporting warfighters in the Pacific area of responsibility.

In addition to meeting with major customers at U.S. Pacific Command, Thompson visited most of the DLA locations on Oahu. At each stop, the director received a tour of the facility and a briefing from the commander or director on ongoing projects.

One of the locations Thompson visited was the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility. He also visited Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Pearl Harbor, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office at Barbers Point, Defense Distribution Depot Pearl Harbor, the Document Automation and Production Service's office in Hawaii, and Defense Supply Center Philadelphia-Pacific. He also ate lunch aboard the USS Lake Erie with a group of Navy supply officers.



# Gates establishes new cyber subcommand

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates signed a memo June 23 establishing a subcommand focused on cyber security, Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell told reporters today.

Details about the new U.S. Cyber Command, which will report to U.S. Strategic Command, still are unfolding. But Gates reportedly plans to recommend Army Lt. Gen. Keith B. Alexander, director of the National Security Agency, to receive his fourth star and take on the additional responsibility of commanding the cyber command.

Initial indications are that the cyber command will have its headquarters at Fort Meade, Md., pending results of an environmental impact statement.

“This is not some sort of new and necessarily different authorities that have been granted,” Morrell told reporters today. “This is about trying to figure out how we, within this department, within the United States military, can better coordinate the day-to-day defense, protection and operation of the department’s computer networks.”

Morrell emphasized that the new command will focus solely on military networks.

Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III noted the importance of cyber security to national defense last week at the Center for International and Strategic Studies.

“Just like our national dependence, there is simply no exaggerating our military dependence on our information networks: the command and control of our forces, the intelligence and logistics on which they depend, the weap-

ons technologies we develop and field – they all depend on our computer systems and networks,” Lynn said. “Indeed, our 21st century military simply cannot function without them.”

Because cyberspace is critical to joint military operations, it’s critical that the Defense Department ensure they’re protected, Air Force Lt. Col. Eric Butterbaugh, a DoD spokesman, told American Forces Press Service.

“To do this, the Department of Defense needs to ensure it has the right balance of integrated cyber capabilities,” Butterbaugh said. “We’re increasingly dependent on cyberspace, and there’s a growing array of cyber threats. To effectively address this risk to its networks, the Defense Department requires a command possessing the required technical capability and which remains focused on streamlining cyberspace operations.”

Morrell called the standup of Cyber Command an internal reorganization that will consolidate and streamline its cyber capabilities within a single command. The effort in no way represents any attempt by the department to “militarize” cyberspace or take over the responsibility for defending civilian networks, he said, noting that responsibility falls to the Homeland Security Department.

“This is part of a holistic, government-wide effort to better organize and situate ourselves to deal with this very real threat,” he said. “And it is a complement to efforts that are taking place elsewhere within the United States government.”

# Defense Department reduces dependence on fossil fuels

By Nick Simeone  
OASD Public Affairs

As the world prepared to mark Earth Day 2009 on April 22, the Pentagon became the “greenest” of federal agencies, with military operations worldwide deriving a full 10 percent of their power from sources other than fossil fuels.

As the nation’s single largest energy consumer, the U.S. military is increasing its reliance on alternative and renewable energy sources to provide power to everything from soldiers in the field to bases and installations around the world.

Pentagon officials say reducing dependence on fossil fuels — and foreign oil in particular — is becoming increasingly critical to national security at a time when the amount of energy consumed by U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan has surpassed that of all other wars in U.S. history.

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## Defense Department declared “greenest” of federal agencies: 10 percent of power derived from non-fossil fuel sources

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Pentagon officials put the Defense Department’s total energy costs for fiscal 2006 and 2007 above \$13 billion. Last summer’s spike in oil prices helped to push the department’s 2008 energy bill alone to \$20 billion, a senior Pentagon installations and environment official said.

Apart from the cost, reducing the reliance on oil in war zones is critical to saving lives. Trucks delivering fuel to U.S. forces in Iraq have been among the most frequent targets of insurgent attacks, with about half of all military casualties involving supply convoys. A recent Defense Department report to Congress on energy security described what it called the “high burden” of protecting overland routes and the strategic importance of finding other means of delivery.

All four military services have established energy task forces. In testimony to Congress earlier this year, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said he plans to appoint a Defense Department “energy czar” to oversee conservation efforts.

But defense officials say the department already is ahead of other federal agencies on conservation issues.

“For its size, [the Defense Department] is No. 1 in terms of conservation among federal agencies,” the senior installations and environment official said. “The Pentagon is definitely a green building.” For example, he noted, ongoing building renovations include installation of water- and power-saving technologies.

The military’s growing reliance on alternative energy also can be seen at bases and operations worldwide. For example:

- The Navy Air Weapons Station China Lake in California’s Mojave Desert is powered completely by geothermal energy;
- A solar farm at Fort Irwin, Calif., is expected to produce enough electricity to supply power to the surrounding community;
- One-third of the power used by the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is derived from wind; and
- An Air Force B-52 Stratofortress bomber has flown on power produced completely from synthetic fuel.

Also, a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency program is developing jet fuel from algae, bacteria and rapeseed. A form of wearable power is being developed for soldiers deployed in areas where electricity is scarce or unavailable. Vehicles are being made from much lighter, but stronger, titanium rather than steel, not only to improve fuel efficiency, but also to provide better protection.

The Army is “building green, buying green and going green,” said Addison Davis, the service’s deputy assistant secretary for environment, safety and occupational health.

“Over the next five years,” he said, “we’re putting about \$63 billion in new construction into the United States Army, and the vast majority of that is going to be green buildings.”

The Army even has a project under way in Iraq in which garbage is converted into biofuel to power generators. “We’re doing a tremendous amount in terms of wind, solar, geothermal and waste energy through our biomass programs,” Davis said.

Conservation efforts have been given a boost by the Obama administration’s economic stimulus package, which earmarked some \$300 million for Pentagon alternative energy projects.



# Obama touts Nellis solar power

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama held up Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., May 27, as an example for America to follow toward energy independence.

The air base – a huge facility outside Las Vegas best known as the “Home of the Fighter Pilot” – also is the site of the largest solar electric plant of its kind in the Western Hemisphere, and the president would like to see more such facilities around the country.

The array has more than 72,000 solar panels built on part of an old landfill. The facility provides about a quarter of the electricity for the 12,000 people who live and work at the base. “That’s the equivalent of powering about 13,200 homes during the day,” Obama said. “It’s a project that took about half a year to complete, created 200 jobs, and will save the U.S. Air Force, which is the largest consumer of energy in the federal government, nearly \$1 million a year.”

The Nellis facility reduces harmful carbon pollution by 24,000 tons a year – the equivalent of removing 4,000 cars from the

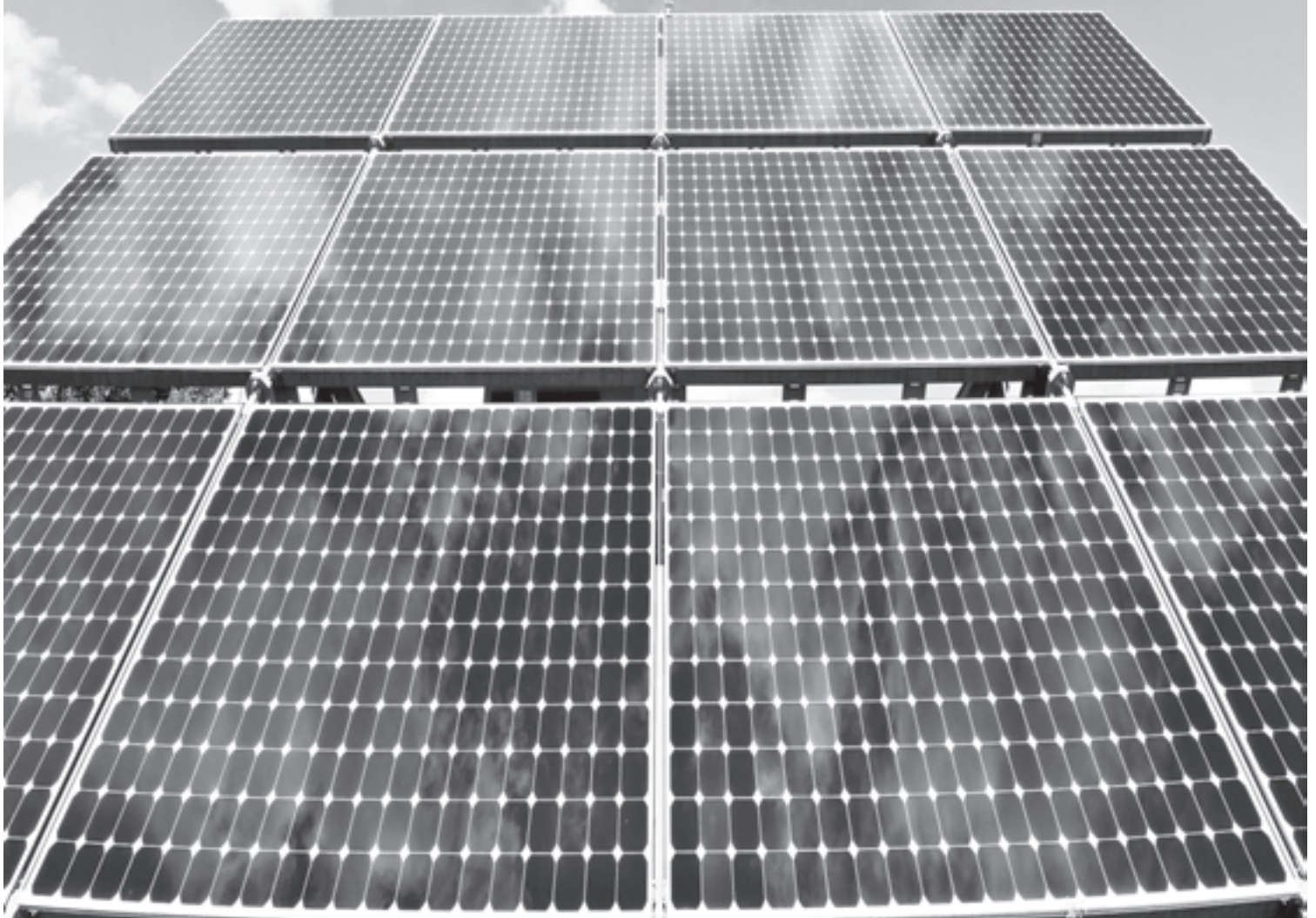
roads, Obama noted. “Most importantly, this base serves as a shining example of what’s possible when we harness the power of clean, renewable energy to build a new, firmer foundation for economic growth,” he said.

Nellis’ system covers 140 acres of land, including 33 acres of capped landfill. The array comprises more than 72,000 solar panels that track the sun to maximize renewable solar energy.

Obama said he would like to see this technology – and others that harness wind and geothermal energy – duplicated around the United States “because in this case, what happens in Vegas should not stay in Vegas.”

“We’ll invest in the development and deployment of solar technology wherever it can thrive,” he said, “and we’ll find the best way to integrate solar power into our electric grid.”

The Nellis solar power system is a joint venture among the Air Force, Renewable Ventures, SunPower Corp. and N.V. Energy.



# Commentary: Investing in interns

By Famia J. Magaña  
DLA Equal Employment Opportunity Office

A diverse workforce brings unique talents and capabilities to an organization to help it achieve its mission. At the Defense Logistics Agency, that mission is providing logistics support to our nation's war fighters, and employees with disabilities are an important part of our team.

Each year DLA's goal is to increase the number of employees it hires who have targeted disabilities, including severe disabilities. People with severe disabilities — who often have difficulty obtaining employment, despite their qualifications — represent an untapped pool of talented candidates that federal agencies should actively recruit.

The Labor Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy named DLA the top federal employer for the 2008 Workforce Recruitment Program. The program, which began in 1995, is for college students with disabilities. It is co-sponsored by the Office of Disability Employment Policy and the Defense Department with support from other federal agencies.

Students can intern for 14 weeks each summer while in college and the summer after graduation. The goal is that these students will later become permanent full-time employees.

In 1995, we hired five interns; in 2008, we hired 91. Most interns come in at the GS-4 or GS-5 level and have worked in a variety of offices, including public affairs, human resources, general counsel and equal employment opportunity. Forty-four interns have become full-time DLA employees since 2003.

We have found throughout the years that WRP interns hired through the program have a low rate of turnover and are highly productive.

As the director of DLA's Equal Employment Opportunity Office, I routinely review with my staff our strategy to place interns. We realized that the program should be worked all year, not just during the hiring phase.

We developed a strategy to market the program to three audiences of hiring officials, with key messages developed for each. The targeted audiences were hiring officials who had hired WRP interns before; those who have shown interest but never participated in the program; and others who have never hired a WRP intern or shown interest in the program or perhaps have never heard about the program.

The local disability/WRP coordinators at each DLA field activity then engaged the hiring managers.

We also developed a communication plan to highlight the program in DLA's online and print publications. Each year, we establish goals for the program: number of students to hire both funded by WRP and funded by DLA; number of hires with targeted disabilities; and number of interns hired permanently or on temporary appointments.

I am proud of the caliber of people DLA hires to support our war fighters. DLA employees are doing all we can to ensure that service members get the parts and supplies they need to maintain mission readiness.

*Editor's note: This article appeared in the Federal Times in April.*



# Quartermasters host birthday ball

By Army 2nd Lt. Tamarrow Climes  
505th Quartermaster Battalion

To celebrate its 22nd anniversary, the 505th Quartermaster Battalion pulled out the red carpet and invited all to attend its annual Birthday Ball April 16 at Kadena Air Force Base, Japan. The event made the Kadena Rocker non-commissioned officers club the place to be.

Hosted by Commander Army Lt. Col. Michele N. Thompson-Shoats and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey D. Crawford, the event turned out to be an eclectic celebration enjoyed by nearly 200 guests and 505th QM BN pipeliners.

Retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Rufus M. Parker shared his knowledge on leadership and the NCO corps as the guest speaker for the evening. The battalion celebrated the Army's "Year of the NCO" with a poignant "I am the Sergeant" performance, paying tribute to the role of the NCO throughout U.S. history.

The battalion also gave guests an awe-inspiring moment with a stellar performance by the Sound of Mission Taiko Drum Band comprised of local school children enrolled at the Grace Christian Academy.

The opening of the dance floor was marked by the battalion's beloved mascot, Lawrence the Pipeman, who dazzled guests with a spirited break dance. Guests were welcomed to the dance floor, and the evening ended in dancing.

Honored guests included Army Maj. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, USAR-J commanding general; Army Col. James E. Woodard, 10th Support Group commander; Navy Capt. Michael Vizcarra, Combined Fleet Activity Support Group commander; Colonel Tabuchi, 6<sup>th</sup> Air Defense Artillery Group commander; Col. Suzuki Hiroshi, 1st Combined Group commander; Army Maj. Shinichi Miura, 323rd Battery, Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force commander; Lt. Col. Johnathan E. Watson, 835th Transportation commander; and Army Lt. Col. Stephen Elle, 58th Signal Battalion



*An ice sculpture created for the event expresses unit pride.*



*Cutting the birthday cake for the 505th Quartermaster Battalion April 16 are, from the left, Army Lt. Col. Michele Thompson-Shoats, Pvt. 1st Class Jacob Wallace, Master Sgt. Pedro Perez and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Crawford.*

# In the Limelight

## Nowicki garners honors: DESC, DLA Employee of the Quarter

By Susan Declercq Brown  
DESC Public Affairs

**M**ike Nowicki, fuels distribution inventory lead with Defense Energy Support Center Americas East, is both the Defense Logistics Agency Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter of fiscal 2009 and the DESC Employee of the Quarter for the same period. Nowicki shares the DLA honors with Myron Clanton, Jr., a logistics management specialist with DLA Europe. The honorees were selected from among 40 nominees worldwide.

In announcing the award, DESC Deputy Director Navy Capt. Jeff Cox thanked Nowicki for his hard work and dedication in supporting DESC's mission.

Prior to this assignment in Houston, Nowicki worked for two years in DESC's Defense Fuel Support Point Management Office, so when DESC's regional offices became more involved in the day-to-day inventory accounting for their DFSPs, he found himself uniquely qualified to lead the way.

"His initiative and drive, coupled with his industry and DFSP management experience have made him invaluable to DESC Americas in assuming responsibility for the oversight and inventory accountability of 291 DFSP locations and 1,017 individual product accounts in a six-month period," said Air Force Capt. Joshua K. Strakos, DESC Americas East operations officer.

Nowicki's experience in account reconciliation helped him develop training for co-workers who were taking on the transfer of the inventory accountability mission. His training led to a 15 percent improvement in reconciliation closeout within the first customer group to come online, contributing to improved stewardship and employee development.

To further enhance inventory accounting skills, Nowicki coordinated with DESC partner Magellan Midstream to set up an in-depth class at DFSP Houston, providing valuable

training for his co-workers while enhancing customer and partner relationships. The class covered aspects of fuels field operations including tasks such as gauging tanks, truck loading, meter and valve overview, temperature conversion, additive injection, and barge and tanker loading. These are all contributing factors and possible points of failure in the accountability process. These newly acquired skills proved to be valuable to inventory accountants, helping them work with responsible officers to reduce in-transit and operational losses. This directly contributed to a 15 percent reduction in out-of-tolerance losses of capitalized stock.

Nowicki said ten years spent in the Air Force petroleum, oils, and lubricants community and an additional six years with Varec, Inc. were also invaluable to him. "I was able to step in without missing a beat," he said.

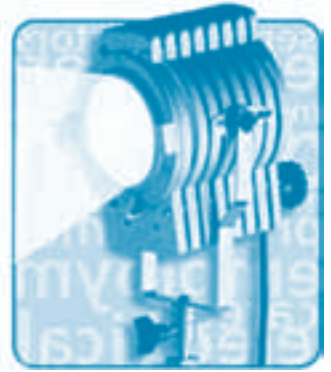
The Oklahoma native's actions are also credited with single-handedly resulting in recovery of more than \$292,000 in otherwise-lost revenue.

When human error led to contamination of a DESC-contracted barge at DFSP Carteret, N.J., Nowicki was contacted during off-duty hours and immediately began working the issue. His quick action minimized lost barge time. He tracked cleaning costs and lost barge time and prepared a claim that resulted in DESC's recovery of \$57,178.

When terminal operating agreement personnel performed an improper pipeline test at DFSP New Haven, Conn., the inventory in a JP8 storage tank became contaminated. Nowicki took immediate action and worked with Buckeye Pipeline Company and DESC Quality to devise a plan to filter the fuel and bring it back on-specification. He also tracked the unrecoverable product and prepared a claim that resulted in the reimbursement of \$35,253 to DESC.

The inventory accounting team lead discovered and investigated large JP8 losses at DFSP Carteret. Through coordination with the facilities contract specialist, Kinder Morgan, and

**DESC  
Employee of  
the Quarter**



**DLA  
Employee of  
the Quarter**

**Mike Nowicki**  
***Fuels Distribution Inventory Lead***

Sunoco, Inc. Nowicki facilitated the return of approximately \$200,000 for fuel lost during a tank cleaning and is currently coordinating an ongoing agreement to recover lost revenue due to an improper pipeline receipt procedure.

Nowicki is credited with reducing month over month loss at Fort Drum, N.Y., by 93 percent. He identified inaccurate measurement standards in two airfield storage tanks while conducting a site visit to investigate ongoing product losses. Working with Cape Environmental Management, Inc. to provide accurate measurement standards, and persuading SPAWAR to recalibrate the measurement equipment on site, Nowicki rapidly resolved the issue.

Nowicki said there's no secret to ferreting out inventory control problems. "The biggest key is understanding where the fuel comes from, how it is shipped, how it is received, how it

is transferred internally, and then ultimately sold to the end user. With this knowledge, you can narrow down where the excessive gains or losses occur," he explained.

Nowicki loves the challenge of the job and solving customer's problems. "Everyday is a new challenge," he explained, "whether it is investigating excessive gains or losses, assisting a DFSP with reconciliation or just scheduling fuel in the pipeline. Nothing is as easy as it seems when it comes to moving fuel from A to B."

"Mike's trailblazing actions are setting the standard for all of DESC as we move toward auditability and convergence," Strakos said.

Nowicki coaches a Little League baseball team in Kingwood, Texas.



# Company grade officer Van Schoor earns DLA award

**By Susan Declercq Brown**  
**DESC Public Affairs**

Air Force Capt. Richard Van Schoor earned Defense Logistics Agency Company Grade Officer of the Quarter honors for the second quarter of fiscal 2009.

Van Schoor, an operations officer in the Defense Energy Support Center's Contingency Plans and Operations Division since July 2008, was lauded for outstanding performance across the full range of his duties.

In presenting the award during a DESC town hall meeting, DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson thanked the awardee for his exemplary work and in particular for his support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The captain ensures 24-hour customer support as a staff duty officer on weekends and after hours. As a DESC watch officer assigned to support Federal Emergency Management Agency on weekends, he considers his support to FEMA one of his most significant accomplishments.

Van Schoor coordinated with FEMA and several DESC

organizations to provide fuel support in national emergencies, including Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. He also expeditiously responded to FEMA's requirements during this winter's ice storms in Kentucky and rushed 80,000 gallons of fuel to emergency relief efforts, helping to restore power and lights to more than 600,000 people.

As the DESC lead for the Secretary of Defense's Mobility Capability Readiness Study, Van Schoor brought considerable experience to the table; in addition to his operations officer experience, the Ohio native benefitted from three years in the Air Force Petroleum Agency, a one-year Education With Industry assignment with ExxonMobil, and more than 12 years of enlisted experience as a fuels specialist. He provided information key to designing five worldwide operational scenarios. The information helped accurately identify U.S. force capabilities and response and was critical in shaping future force structure.

Additionally, the operations officer ensures accuracy in war plans and operations tools. He mastered the first War Manage-

ment Plan-5 load since 1999 and updated the fuel burn rates on 55 Air Force mission design series. He corrected the new Current Forces Data Base to delete a duplicated force requirements number, preventing a \$4-million overstatement of fuel requirements.

Van Schoor said his experience also provides him a valuable perspective in his daily support of the warfighter and the defense community. He provided timely Defense Readiness Reporting System information to senior management on 70 mission essential tasks and ensured visibility at the OSD level.

When he's not briefing senior leaders on support to Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and ground line of communications disruptions, he provides Adaptive Planning and Execution fuel consumption figures as the Integrated Consumable Item Support Model functional expert. Van Schoor ensured validation of 132 million barrels of bulk petroleum products valued at more than \$12 billion. He also performed a 100-page test plan, identifying and correcting faults, to validate a system change proposal and ensure it was ICIS capable.

As an expert on DESC's Continuity of Operations plans and influenza pandemic planning, the captain was lauded by DLA as being "way ahead of the pack" on developing plans for upcoming exercises.

As a DLA Air Force Assistance Fund keyworker, Van Schoor helped the agency surpass the set goal by 326 percent. In his off-duty time, he laid wreaths on fallen heroes graves, organized a senior citizen prom and taught confirmation classes at his church.

Van Schoor said supporting OEF is the most challenging aspect of his job, but the most rewarding is working with an elite team of professionals to provide support to OEF and OIF.

"Captain Van Schoor is totally committed to providing the best support possible to the entire DoD fuel community," said supervisor Air Force Maj. Daniel Olmstead.



## DESC employee shines during Exercise Austere Challenge '09

*Defense Energy Support Center Europe and Africa's Carl Varner stands in front of a water tower in Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, with the Commander's Coin presented to him in recognition of his outstanding support to Exercise Austere Challenge '09 in April. Varner was singled out during the exercise by Army Gen. Carter Ham, commanding general of U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army, for his superior efforts. Varner was lead DESC fuel planner for the exercise.*

*Austere Challenge '09, a U. S. European Command theater command and control exercise, led to the certification of USAREUR/7th Army as the lead component in future joint task forces. The exercise involved the notional movement of large numbers of U.S. forces into an exceptionally infrastructure-challenged region.*

*Fuels support was inordinately complicated, and Varner worked diligently to ensure uninterrupted warfighter support.*

# OSD award recognizes leadership, devotion to duty

By Kelly Widener  
DESC Public Affairs

Senior Master Sgt. Lucian M. Boyles was recognized as the 2008 Office of the Secretary of Defense Senior Enlisted Service Member of the Year in a ceremony Mar. 31 at the Pentagon.

The OSD Senior Enlisted Service Member of the Year is awarded each year to a member of the armed forces based on leadership qualities, military bearing and devotion to duty.

“Our non-commissioned officers are the backbone of our military,” said Deputy Secretary of Defense William J. Lynn III. “They have the responsibility for the safety, training, discipline and well being of each service member in their charge.”

Boyles is a petroleum quality assurance representative assigned to Defense Energy Support Center Korea. After enlisting in the Air Force in 1985, he reported for his first duty assignment in the United Kingdom. Two months later, he was rapidly introduced to contingency operations when the base launched EF-111A aircraft to support the bombing

of Libya as part of Operation Eldorado Canyon.

“Just two months after arriving at his first duty assignment, Sgt. Boyles supported a large bombing operation to strike back at those believed to be responsible for the 1986 bombing of a Berlin club, which killed a U.S. soldier, one civilian, and injured hundreds of others, including 63 American soldiers,” said Lynn. “Since then, he has supported several other operations, including Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

“He is currently assigned to Defense Energy Support Center Korea, where he ensures that the Department of Defense is using the best fueling and energy sources available,” Lynn said.

Boyles is a recipient of numerous military decorations and awards and was recently selected as the Defense Logistics Agency Senior Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter for April - June 2008.

“The Defense Energy Support Center is extremely honored to have Senior Master Sgt. Boyles as part of our team,” said DESC Director Kim J Huntley. “His teamwork and leadership exemplify the quality and commitment of the Department of Defense’s personnel. His selfless service and commitment to his country and the DESC mission is humbling, and we thank him.”

Distinguished guests at the ceremony included Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Norton Schwartz; General Counsel Jeh Johnson; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office, Ambassador Charles Ray; and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs Bryan Whitman.



*William J. Lynn III, deputy secretary of Defense, presents Senior Master Sgt. Lucian M. Boyles with the 2008 Office of the Secretary of Defense Senior Enlisted Service Member of the Year award during a ceremony Mar 31.*



*Defense Logistics Agency  
Defense Energy Support Center*


*4 Areas of Focus*

Warfighter Support Enhancements

Stewardship Improvements

Business Process Refinements

Workforce Development



DEFENSE ENERGY SUPPORT CENTER

*Providing Energy  
Solutions Worldwide*

*An airman prepares to refuel a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft with fuel procured by the Defense Energy Support Center. (U.S. Air Force photo)*



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