

**WINNERS OF THE 2018  
COMMANDER IN CHIEF'S ANNUAL AWARD FOR  
INSTALLATION EXCELLENCE**

**2018 ARMY WINNER**

United States Army Garrison Fort Rucker  
Alabama

U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Rucker supports the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, U.S. Army Aviation Branch, and over forty tenant organizations, with area of support responsibilities that include 7th Special Forces Group (A), Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, and 158th Infantry and 177th Armor Brigades, Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Fort Rucker plays a strategic role in our Nation's defense as the largest rotary-wing training installation in the world. Warfighters trained at Fort Rucker support or deploy to military operations in the world's premier aviation force, as well as joint and multi-national forces.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, USAG Fort Rucker delivered timely, targeted products and services in a professional manner to a community of warriors. With a focus on energy resiliency, the garrison partnered with Alabama Power and American Water to develop innovative solutions and diversify electrical and water services. As a result, energy intensity has been reduced by 11 percent since FY 2015 and water intensity by 48.3 percent since FY 2007. A 10-megawatt solar photovoltaic array was completed in April 2017, which is providing approximately 16 percent of Fort Rucker's electrical consumption per year. In other construction, Fort Rucker repurposed the old commissary into a supply storage facility. This proactive approach to asset management yielded centralized storage, a right-sized storage footprint, and enabled the demolition of over 120 thousand square feet of World War II wood warehouses. Continuing this trend of lowering costs and getting the highest return on their investments, the garrison conducted quarterly Performance Assessment Reviews to systematically analyze service contract performance and cost data. These reviews yielded financial gains in lowering contract costs by adjusting service levels, divestiture of low priority programs, and reshaping processes, procedures, and service delivery.

USAG Fort Rucker puts Soldiers first and the garrison has several programs that help provide a safe and positive environment. The installation's Safety and Occupational Health Advisory Council programs yielded significant reductions in accident lost days and reductions in lost day cases by 88 percent from FY 2016 to FY 2017. The Installation Protection Working Group and Installation Protection Executive Committee convened quarterly meetings to guide the development and implementation of an integrated all-hazards installation protection program. USAG Fort Rucker actively supports and strengthens relationships with surrounding communities. The Community Relations Sister City Partnership Program connects Fort Rucker units with local citizens in performing civic works which foster friendships and cultural understanding.

The installation is recognized as an Army Community of Excellence that continuously strives to support and sustain mission ready combat forces, to enhance resiliency and well-being, and to provide a quality work and living environment for Service members and their families. USAG Fort Rucker employs best practices to exceed customer expectations and mission requirements. The installation's successes are evident in the other 2017 awards won that include: Army Communities of Excellence Silver Award; Secretary of the Army Energy and Water Management Award; Excellence in Youth Sports Award; and the Confined Space Program and Explosives Safety Management Program were both cited for Army Best Practice recognition.

## 2018 MARINE CORPS WINNER

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar  
California

Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar serves as a strategic platform for aviation and ground elements of the First Marine Expeditionary Force. The installation is the principal support base for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, with 27 Squadrons on board, and hosts 45 different military and civilian units/organizations. The airfield supports simultaneous fixed and rotary wing daily sorties and training flights amounting to over 66,000 operations a year. The airfield also supports critical specialized training, which includes ordnance/weapons systems delivery as well as the Field Carrier Landing Practice. In addition, the airfield serves as an Aerial Port of Entry for unit deployments and can support all U.S. Military cargo aircraft including occasional visits from Air Force One.

MCAS Miramar is a vital member of the San Diego community with over 15,000 Service members and their families, comprised of every branch of our military. Miramar excelled at providing “Quality of Life” support and morale boosting venues for both unaccompanied Service members and military families. In Fiscal Year 2017, 23 community events were held with seven being Signature Events, which included: a Christmas Day “Goodie Bag” delivery to Marines standing duty on Christmas Day; the “Month of the Military Child” that included a Family Fun Day; and the 101 Critical Days of Summer Challenge in collaboration with Semper Fit. Protecting the community and safe guarding assets is also a priority for Miramar. The Station became the only Marine Corps installation to successfully implement the use of vehicle and body worn cameras. And to further leverage technological solutions, the Provost Marshall implemented the Joint Interoperable Gateway network, which displays sensor data for physical security of critical assets, and installed a new Consolidated Emergency Response System.

MCAS Miramar’s achievements in providing renewable energy sources is leading the way. Renewable sources now account for 54 percent of the total energy consumed on the installation and additional efforts are planned to add 1.6 megawatts of landfill power from the adjacent City of San Diego, which will boost the electrical portfolio to the unprecedented 75 percent renewable level. Other waste management initiatives include hazardous waste disposal cost avoidance through innovative recycling measures. The Miramar Environmental team excelled in completing key steps of the National Environmental Policy Act, which included the development of mitigation plans and finalizing permit requirements to support the beddown of six F-35 squadrons.

All across the installation, the Miramar team provided excellent support and service to all “on board” as evident in the numerous awards and recognition received in 2017 that include: Office of Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Technology Certification Program Project of the Year Award for the Battery Storage Building Level Micro Grid Demonstration project; U.S. Department of Energy Federal Energy and Water Management Award; Chief of Naval Operations Aviation Safety Award; Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award; Gonzales Hall (principal mess hall facility) named the “Best of the West” for five years in a row and received the Major General William Pendleton Thomas Hill Memorial Award for Food Service Excellence; and, the Legal Services Support Team received a Distinguished Service Award from the American Bar Association.

*Semper Fidelis!*

## 2018 NAVY WINNER

Naval Air Station Whidbey Island  
Washington

Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island is the premier naval aviation support complex in the Pacific Northwest and the Navy's center of excellence for electronic combat warfare training. The Station is home to 72 tenant commands, over 10,000 military and Department of Defense civilians along with 20,000 family members. NAS Whidbey Island manages two primary aircraft training fields located at Ault Field in Oak Harbor and the Outlying Landing Field in Coupeville.

With a high operations tempo, the installation safely managed over 173,000 flight events, 87,300 radar operations, 86,500 tower operations and 9,800 flight plans in the largest airspace controlled by a NAS. Search and Rescue (SAR) aircraft availability was maintained at an average of 92 percent readiness allowing 952 flight hours, 63 SAR missions, 36 rescue missions, and 19 Medical Evacuations that saved 71 lives. The Base Air Terminal successfully processed over 21,000+ passengers, 3.1 million pounds of cargo, serviced over 950 aircraft, and Ground Electronics accomplished over 2,700 mishap free maintenance checks.

NAS Whidbey Island installed an innovative "Hot Aisle" computer cooling system in the Growler Aircraft Simulator to target energy reduction in one of the installation's top five energy users. This and other energy conservation efforts garnered over \$600,000 in utility provider rebates and grants, allowing for the development of future energy projects. The installation also saved over \$19,500 through a change in paint waste disposal management. In addition, the installation achieved a 72 percent recycling rate, processed more than 1,607 tons of solid waste, diverted 4,228 tons from landfills, and generated over \$200,000 in recycling sales revenue.

In 2017, NAS Whidbey Island celebrated its "75 Diamond" anniversary with an Open House for the local community that included aircraft static displays, historical events, tours, food booths, family activities, and the Navy Band. In addition, the installation conducted 92 deployment/return functions for over 3,600 Sailors and their families boosting unit morale for all on board NAS Whidbey Island. The Station also continued to build relationships with the local community by conducting consultations with local Tribal Governments, partnering with the City of Oak Harbor on environment projects, and through volunteer efforts of the installation's staff in such projects as Habitat for Humanity.

NAS Whidbey Island's drive to place people first, provide high quality installation services, and efficiently manage operational resources enabled significant achievements across the full spectrum of installation support as evident in the other awards and recognition in 2017 that include: 5-Star rating as a top galley in the Navy; Captain Edward F. Ney Memorial Award finalist for Best Small Ashore Galley; Admiral Elmo Zumwalt Award for Excellence in Lodging Management; Edward Carlson Award as Best Navy Lodge; MWR 5-Star accreditation; CNIC Retention Excellence Award; SECNAV Gold Award for Energy and Water Programs; CNO Environmental Award for Natural Resources Conservation; Navy Community Service Award for Environmental Stewardship; Solid Waste Association of North America's Gold Excellence Award for Composting Systems; nominated by COMNAVREG NW for three Navy Community Service Awards; earned accolades from the Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific inspectors as best NATOPS inspection; and received the National Night Out Award by National Association of Town Watch.

## **2018 AIR FORCE WINNER**

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
Arizona

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base is home to the 355<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, “The Desert Lightning Team,” (DLT) whose key mission is to deploy, employ, support, and sustain attack airpower in support of combatant commanders anywhere in the world at a moment’s notice. Davis-Monthan is home to more than 7,500 personnel and over 28 major mission partners, as well as units from the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. In 2017, the DLT supported Operation INHERENT RESOLVE in which 12-ship, A-10 aviation packages flew 1,788 sorties over the course of six months. These missions included historic assaults on Mosul and Raqqa in order to liberate these cities from ISIS control.

Davis-Monthan is fully dedicated to supporting the installation’s quality of life and committed to enriching the life of every Airman and family member as seen through well planned programs and events. The Desert Inn Dining Facility hosted the first ever Iron Chef Competition that afforded Airmen Chefs the opportunity to showcase their cooking skills. Davis-Monthan teamed with surrounding communities and local businesses to launch a military spouse employment initiative. The Chaplain’s office developed the Airmen Ministry Center, which is embedded in the dorm community and is a beacon for esprit de corps, comradery and unit morale. Known as “The Loft,” it is accessible 24/7 and equipped with a kitchen, state-of-the-art electronics, flat screen TVs, gaming stations, and musical instruments. The new Financial Peace University course helps attendees budget, and reduce excessive financial debt while increasing savings ultimately mitigating stress and improving readiness. The installation’s unique “ACE” program hosts “Empower Hour” events where peers and senior leaders share their resiliency stories. The Military Affairs Committee hosted the annual Thanksgiving Dorm Bash for the installation’s 690 dorm residents, and works closely with the USO to create memorable deployment and welcome-home events for Airmen and their families. The Family Health Flight sent medical teams to line units for a better perspective of what Airmen jobs entail helping to facilitate better service and care. The First Sergeants Council led 22 Warm Heart events, raising, and dispersing approximately \$21,000 dollars in grants to 13,000 DLT members. The First Sergeant Council also spearheaded the base-wide Angel Tree program which garnered \$15,000 in gift purchases for 126 families and 295 children.

The base served as the Air Force lead for transition to the cloud-based email program and developed techniques and procedures for successful implementation. To transition a “Cyber-Ready 365” mindset, the base stood up Air Combat Command’s first ever Cyber Defense Element work center, which eliminated network vulnerabilities and bolstered the defense of the base network.

The Desert Lightning Team excelled in providing mission support to Warfighters and improving the quality of life of its Airmen and their families as evident in the other awards received in 2017 that include: Air Force (AF) Innkeeper Award; AF George Washington Award for Protocol; AF Medical Services Superior Access to Care Award; AF Large Pharmacy Team of the Year; 12<sup>th</sup> AF Verne Orr for Resource Excellence; Air Combat Command (ACC) Public Affairs Office of the Year; ACC Chief of Safety Aviation Maintenance Safety Award; ACC Best Medium Fire Department of the Year; ACC Outstanding Operational Contracting Unit (Small); ACC Hennessey Award (food service); ACC Medium Dental Clinic of the Year; and Emergency Responder of Distinction Award from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District.

## **2018 DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY WINNER**

### **Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin California**

Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin is the Department of Defense's (DoD) western strategic distribution platform serving the western United States, Pacific, and Indian Ocean regions. The depot coordinates global storage and distribution, material logistics, wildfire support, and Unitized Group Rations (UGRs), in support of the DoD, interagency partners, foreign allies, and first responder customers, in order to deliver material requirements on time, every time. On any given day, the distribution center delivers unparalleled support to more than 4,000 DoD Account Activity Codes, 12 Break Bulk Points, four Theater Consolidation and Shipping Points, and countless Warfighters and first-responders serving on the frontlines across the globe.

The Depot's staff embraced process improvement and the idea that audit readiness enhances mission performance and as such, San Joaquin is touted as the benchmark for DLA Distribution. Independent auditing teams conducted interviews and observations on the Plan-to-Stock and Acquire-to-Retire processes that passed with 100 percent accuracy. The newly created Operations Cell established a morning update brief conducted via Skype, in which all supervisors, distribution analysts, and key personnel connect to obtain a recap of the previous day's production and a current-day's operations update. Through Continuous Process Improvement events, the Consolidation and Containerization Point Team implemented changes that improved their processing capability by 35 percent and the Receiving Team implemented improvements that resulted in a production increase of 27 percent. The Foreign Military Sales Team achieved unprecedented results through first rate collaboration across multiple work areas to reduce the average period for high-priority shipments from 19 to 1.5 days, and routine shipments from 19 to just under 6 days.

Key to the Depot's excellence and the foundation of success is the trailblazing partnership between DLA Distribution San Joaquin and the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 1546. Together, this enterprise employs and cares for a combined workforce of 1,128 personnel whose tireless efforts resulted in substantial and enduring contributions to the national security and the readiness of our Armed Forces. A People and Culture Team was created to serve as a liaison between installation leadership, AFGE Local 1546, and the Depot's workforce to address issues identified during a DLA Culture Survey. A Health and Wellness Council was established to address the issues and concerns relating to the four pillars of "resiliency": mental, physical, social and spiritual. The concerted efforts of the council resulted in quality of life improvements for employees in and outside of work; encompassing activities such as a weight loss challenge, a Great America Smoke-out, Exercise Lunch and Learn, and even include healthy developmental programs at the installation's Child Development Center.

In 2017, Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin excelled in supporting its customers and employees through innovative and results driven management, which earned the installation the DLA Phyllis C. Campbell Award for Superior Performance. Other recognitions for superior achievements include the DLA Equal Employment Opportunity Special Emphasis Programs Team of the Year; Brig. Gen. Barbara Doornick DLA Distribution Center of the Year Award; and the Henry T. Flint DLA Distribution Shipping Point of the Year Award. Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin deserves recognition with the Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence for its continued commitment to deliver efficient, cost-effective global logistics support to the Department of Defense.