

## Pentagon Leaders Honor Excellence in Acquisition

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS, DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY  
(DEC. 9, 2014)

Nick Simeone

WASHINGTON—The 2014 Defense Acquisition Workforce Awards were handed out today during a Pentagon ceremony in which the department's leadership honored those who through acquisition excellence, provide outstanding support to the warfighter.

"Recognizing our professionals and the great work they do is really important," Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Frank Kendall told award recipients, who are among the more than 150,000 civilian and military members that make up the department's acquisition workforce.

Navy Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr., vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was also on hand to present awards to staff who, he said, "based on our dreams and your dreams design, produce, and ultimately, hopefully on cost and on schedule and on performance, do the very critical part of logistic support... the kinds of things that people who wear the uniform like me have to use out there defending our country."

The following categories and individuals were recognized for outstanding service:

- Requirements Management: Diane Baker, U.S. Air Force, Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for "exemplifying excellence in requirements management through the study and implementation of cost capability analysis for the Air Force."
- Acquisition in an Expeditionary Environment: Matthew A. Mclean, U.S. Air Force, 10th Contracting Squadron, U.S. Air Force Academy for "outstanding mission support to U.S. Central Command."
- Auditing: Robert F. LeJeune, Defense Contract Audit Agency, for "outstanding contributions to the acquisition process and his ultimate support of the warfighter and protection of the taxpayer."
- Business: Maryellen Lukac, U.S. Army, for among other things, providing "essential acquisition and funding direction in the accomplishment of the urgent production and delivery of 918 60mm mortar systems to

the Afghan national army within seven months from request."

- Contracting and Procurement: Patricia A. Watson, Washington Headquarters Services Acquisition Directorate, for her "stellar commitment to increasing contract quality and to developing the professional acquisition competencies of over 115 contracting professionals within WHS/AD."
- Earned Value Management: David Kester, Defense Contract Management Agency, for among other things "leadership and courage in confronting the lack of consistency, standardization, and transparency" of a DCMA management system.
- Engineering: Daniel Dittenber, U.S. Army, for among other things implementing "innovative solutions to dramatically improve readiness and sustainability while simultaneously improving performance capabilities."
- Facilities Engineering: Leland "Allen" Fincham, Directorate of Public Works, Joint Munitions Command, Blue Grass Army Depot, Richmond, Kentucky, for among other things "ensuring that facilities are maintained, improved and operated in such a way as to minimize mission impacts" while taking "stellar care of employees."
- Information Technology: Edward Lane, National Reconnaissance Office, for changing "how the NRO, Department of Defense, and intelligence community acquire information-sharing capabilities that meet the needs of our nation's decision makers."
- Life Cycle Logistics: Kevin Cormier, U.S. Navy, for among other things contributing "directly and significantly to sustaining the affordability of DoD's most complex weapons system."
- Production, Quality, and Manufacturing: John Graham, Defense Contract Management Agency, for "exhibiting the highest levels of excellence in the acquisition of products and services in support of the warfighter and protection of taxpayer resources."
- Program Management: Thu Van Hendrey, U.S. Navy, for among other things, establishing "rigorous processes to ensure the prime contractor's integration and testing program scrupulously supported the program's operational requirements."

- Science and Technology Manager: Maj. Christopher Schlagheck, U.S. Air Force, Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office, for managing a \$30 million space threat microsatellite program during a period in which he “significantly advanced the state of the art for this nation’s space defense posture.”
- Services Acquisition: Steven R. Lahr, U.S. Air Force, Air Combat Command’s Acquisition Management and Integration Center, for among other things “leading the way in implementing the Better Buying Power 2.0 philosophy.”
- Small Business: Crystal Ober, Defense Logistics Agency, for having a “profound effect on DLA aviation by increasing small business participation from 22.4 percent in fiscal year 2012 to 30.7 percent in FY14.”
- Test and Evaluation: Steven Schroeder, U.S. Navy, for “demonstrating exceptional leadership through his management of the Joint High Speed Vessel Test Team.”

In addition to the awards for individual achievement, employees at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division were honored with the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Award for “achieving excellence in developing acquisition professionals.”

Also receiving the award:

- The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Business Financial Management Competency;
- The 448th Supply Chain Management Wing/431st Supply Chain Management Squadron;
- The Special Operations Research, Development and Acquisition Center, U.S. Special Operations Command;
- Army Contracting Command; and
- The Acquisition Excellence and Program Execution Directorate, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Air Force Materiel Command.

### **CAAA Employee Receives Army Materiel Command's 2013 Dellamonica Award**

U.S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND (DEC. 3, 2014)

*Thomas Peske*

CRANE, Ind.—Crane Army Ammunition Activity (CAAA) employee Tina Truelove received the Louis Dellamonica Award for Outstanding Army Materiel Command (AMC) Personnel of the Year for 2013.

Truelove is one of ten AMC employees chosen for the honor. Military and civilians, under the General Officer and Senior Executive Service rank, are considered from AMC’s approximately 70,000 employees.

“It is a great honor to receive the Dellamonica Award,” Truelove, a senior supply system analyst, said. “My entire career has been devoted to making CAAA a place of excellence in the ammunition community. Everyone who works at CAAA shares this same goal. We all do whatever it takes to ensure the successful supply of ammunition to the field in support of the warfighter.”

Only those who have significantly contributed to AMC’s mission and overarching goals and objectives for the year are honored. Nominees are judged on how their initiatives measurably improve their work environment and AMC’s mission,

how they motivate and inspire fellow employees to improve or increase the quality of their own work, and how well they are viewed by peers, subordinates, and supervisors.

“I have been fortunate to have Tina as a member of my Logistics Modernization Program (LMP) deployment team where she has served as the subject matter expert for sales and distribution,” Crane Army LMP Director Mark Helms said. “Her experience in the area of logistics and overall ammunition knowledge has propelled her to become the ‘go-to’ solution expert for both LMP and SmartChain. In addition to being highly skilled technically, Tina is thoughtful, experienced, and a true leader who is widely recognized as such by her peers, our sister sites, Joint Munitions Command Headquarters, and Program Manager Office LMP.”

This annual award is presented in honor of Louis Dellamonica, a general engineer who worked at the Hawthorne Army Depot for 65 years. His career exemplifies integrity, innovation, leadership, and outstanding dedication to AMC’s mission.

This is the second year in a row that a Crane Army employee earned the Dellamonica Award. Former CAAA employee Randall Burcham earned the award in FY 2012 for his work in demilitarization.



Crane Army Ammunition Activity Commander Col. Joe Dixon presents the Louis Dellamona Award for Outstanding Army Materiel Command Personnel of the Year for 2013 to Senior Supply System Analyst Tina Truelove. Also in the photo are Crane Army Logistics Modernization Program Director Mark Helms (left) and Crane Army Civilian Executive Assistant Norman Thomas.

Photo by Army 1st Lt. Marshall Z Howell

Established in October 1977, Crane Army Ammunition Activity maintains ordnance professionals and infrastructure in order to receive, store, ship, produce, renovate, and demilitarize conventional ammunition, missiles, and related components. Crane Army maintains up to one third of the DoD's conventional ammunition inventory. The activity also provides command oversight of Iowa Army Ammunition Plant; Letterkenny Munitions Center, Pennsylvania; and Milan Army Ammunition Plant, Tennessee.

### **Picatinny Engineers Win Army's Top Research Award**

PICATINNY ARSENAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DEC. 4, 2014)

Audra Calloway

PICATINNY ARSENAL, N.J.—Seventeen Picatinny Arsenal scientists and engineers have won the Army's top award for science and technology.

The Army presents the Research and Development Achievement Award to a select group of scientists and engineers whose outstanding achievements have "significantly advanced capabilities and contributed to the national defense." The Picatinny awardees represent five different research and development programs.

"Each year these awards recognize those scientists and engineers who have made a significant contribution to advance

the Army's technical capability," said John Hedderich, III, acting director of Picatinny's Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, or ARDEC.

"Our mission at Picatinny is to take care of our service members through the technology we develop and manage," Hedderich said. "Every innovation, advancement, and improvement is an opportunity to save soldiers' lives."

Approximately one percent of all eligible Army scientists and engineers (S&E) receive the awards each year.

"These S&E personnel have distinguished themselves through their proven scientific and technical excellence or leadership," according to a Nov. 5, memo by Mary Miller, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for research and technology, announcing the award winners.

### **Winners**

- Dr. Jared D. Moretti, Dr. Jesse J. Sabatini, Dr. Anthony P. Shaw, Robert Gilbert Jr., and Gary Chen received the award for their work developing a more environmentally friendly yellow smoke formulation for the M194 hand held signal. Sabatini now works for the Army Research Laboratory.
- Gordon Cooke, Robert DeMarco, Michael Dokachev, Marc Federico, Elizabeth Mezzacappa, and Dana Perri-

ello were recognized for their work on analysis of gunner protection kit configurations. The team created the Virtual Employment Test Bed (VETB), a low-cost simulator that measures and analyzes how well systems perform in the hands of experienced soldiers in order to improve the technology. In his former position as an ARDEC military deputy, Lt. Col. John Thane, now at the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, Georgia, also contributed to the project.

- Ernest L. Baker, Nausheen Al-Shehab, and David G. Pfau were honored for the development of a new, insensitive munitions technology called composite particle impact mitigation sleeves (C-PIMS), which helps to prevent anti-armor warheads from exploding if shot at or hit by shrapnel or a roadside bomb. Nicholas Peterson and Matthew Triplett of the Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center were also recognized for this project.
- Daniel L. Cler was recognized for his research on suppressor technology for military automatic weapons and light machine guns. Suppressor technology reduces the sound emitted from a firing gun, which makes the service member harder to detect by the enemy. Contributing to this project were John Bailey, U.S. Special Operations Command, Dr. James Klett, Department of Energy/Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Dr. William C. Moss, Department of Energy/Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Andy Anderson, Department of Energy/Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Thomas Puckett, Army Research Laboratory.
- Dr. Jesse J. Sabatini and Eric A. Latalladi were honored for development of barium-free M159 white star illuminant.

### **Tobyhanna Employee Honored for Her Efforts**

ARMY CONTRACTING COMMAND—ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND  
(DEC. 8, 2014)

*Betsy Kozak-Howard*

An Army Contracting Command—Aberdeen Proving Ground employee was recognized for her work by the Army Materiel Command commanding general during his visit to the Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania Dec. 2.



Army Materiel Command Commanding General Dennis L. Via presents Judy Haff, chief, Tobyhanna Contracting Division, a four-star pin for her efforts during 2014 fiscal year-end close-out.

*Photo by Betsy Kozak-Howard*

Army Gen. Dennis L. Via presented Judy Haff, chief, Tobyhanna Contracting Division, a four-star pin for her efforts during 2014 fiscal year-end close-out, including multiple construction projects and the opening of the Tobyhanna Office Express Store.

"I am very honored to receive this recognition, especially on behalf of the great contracting team at Tobyhanna," said Haff. "As a team, they stayed on course to complete the mission—they are the heroes."

### **2014 Phoenix Award Announced**

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (DEC. 9, 2014)

The Department of Defense announced the 2014 winner of the Phoenix Award for Maintenance Excellence on Nov. 18, at this year's secretary of defense awards ceremony. The Phoenix Award is presented annually to designate the single best maintenance unit out of that year's six Secretary of Defense Field-Level Maintenance Award winners.

This year's recipient of the Phoenix Award is Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 211. During their eight month deployment with Carrier Air Wing One on the USS Enterprise, they initiated the transition to the maintenance phase of the turnaround fleet response training cycle. The squadron reconstituted their maintenance workforce and completed more

than 230 individual maintenance training courses. VFA-211 earned a “satisfactory” material condition inspection evaluation, the first squadron in more than two years to earn a passing grade in its first attempt, and is recognized as a leader in Hornet community corrosion control practices.

VFA-211 supported numerous detachments, including two flight deck certifications, a foreign military sales demonstration, Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN), and the Naval Weapon System Evaluation Program. These accomplishments have designated VFA-211 as this year’s best field-level maintenance unit in the Department of Defense.

### **Army Engineer Receives Research Scholars Award**

ARMY RESEARCH LABORATORY PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DEC. 10, 2014)

Jenna Brady

ADELPHI, Md.—In addition to hard work and dedication inside the laboratory to further the mission of discovering, innovating, and transitioning science and technology to ensure dominate strategic land power, many U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) scientists and engineers provide significant support to programs that focus on the future of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research careers and the students who hope to one day fill those positions.

ARL electronics engineer Dr. Adrienne Raglin is no exception, as she was recently recognized by the Dr. John H. Hopps Jr., Defense Research Scholars Program for her continuing support of the program and its scholars.

Established in 2006, the Dr. John H. Hopps Jr., Defense Research Scholars Program is designed to advance federal objectives to increase minority participation in scientific research, in math and science education, and in emerging technological fields.

Raglin received the award during the 6th Annual Hopps Research Training Symposium and Recruitment Fair in Atlanta, Georgia.

The theme of this year’s fair was “Reevaluating, Revitalizing, and Reaffirming our Commitment to Undergraduate Under-Represented Minorities Preparing for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Research Careers.”

The program supports incoming freshman throughout their four years at Morehouse College. Many of the students then go on to attend top STEM graduate programs throughout the country.

“It is a great honor to have been recognized with this award,” Raglin said. “One of the Hopps Scholars, Bernard Dickens,

worked with our research project group here at ARL to develop software that will enable us to perform additional analysis and expand various tasks in the field of image processing and atmospheric sensing. Bernard is currently pursuing his doctorate in computer science under a fellowship at University of Chicago.”

Raglin added that participating in outreach programs that bring students to the laboratory provides an opportunity to expose them to a research environment.

“Interacting with the interns can inspire you as a researcher as you introduce students to new ideas and connect the topics of their academic studies to research challenges that we are addressing at ARL,” she said.

In addition to receiving the award, Raglin represented ARL by discussing the opportunities available for scholars at the laboratory, served as a panelist where she discussed opportunities for undergraduate under-represented minorities preparing for STEM research careers and served as a judge for the event’s science fair.

The Army Research Laboratory is part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, which has the mission to develop technology and engineering solutions for America’s soldiers.

### **Defense Logistics Agency Announces Superior Suppliers for 2013, 2014**

DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DEC. 11, 2014)

The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) has announced its top performing supply contractors for fiscal years 2013 and 2014 as part of the Department of Defense’s Superior Supplier Incentive Program (SSIP).

The SSIP is an extension of the department’s Better Buying Power initiative and is designed to incentivize contractor performance by identifying suppliers with the highest rankings in areas such as cost, schedule, performance, quality, and business relations.

“Given DLA’s mission to support our warfighters around the world, it’s important to recognize those companies with proven track records for superior performance in government contracting,” said Matthew Beebe, DLA Acquisition director. “At the same time, we hope it stimulates a conversation within companies that didn’t make the list on how to do better.”

DLA considered 153 of its parts and commodity suppliers with the largest contracts that have done business with the

agency over the past two years. To be eligible for consideration, companies or their subsidiary business units had to have DLA contracts with a proven record of performance as well as an established rating in the federal Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS). Companies with primarily service-oriented contracts were not considered at this time.

Of those considered, 40 companies were selected as DLA's superior suppliers based on CPARS ratings, along with several companies that have partnered with the agency on recent significant cost savings initiatives. The selected companies represent eight of DLA's major supply chains and include 13 small businesses. Collectively the companies account for nearly \$5 billion in DLA contract expenditures annually.

DLA's superior suppliers for 2014 are listed in alphabetical order by performance level:

### **Gold:**

- American Apparel Military Uniform Company
- AmerisourceBergen Drug Corporation
- Atlantic Diving Supply
- The Boeing Company
- Burlington Industries
- Foster Fuels
- United Technologies Aircraft Systems
- I-Solutions Direct Inc.
- Kampi Components Co.
- Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.
- Lockheed Martin Corporation
- Rolls Royce Corporation, U.S.
- Tennier Industries Inc.
- US Foodservice Inc.
- Theodor Wille Intertrade

### **Silver:**

- 3M Company
- AM General LLC
- American Purchasing Services Inc. (American Medical Depot)
- Canadian Commercial Corporation
- DMS Pharmaceutical Group Inc.
- General Dynamics Land Systems
- General Electric Aviation
- Husky Marketing & Supply Co.
- NACCO Materials Handling Group
- National Industries for the Blind
- OSHKOSH Corporation
- Propper International Inc.
- SourceOne Distributors

- W.S. Darley & Co.

### **Bronze:**

- Bell Boeing Joint Project Office
- Carter Enterprises LLC
- Equilon Enterprises LLC
- Graybar Electric Company Inc.
- McKesson Corporation
- PAPCO Inc.
- Raytheon
- Science Applications International
- Seven Seas Shipschandlers LLC
- Supplycore Inc.
- Washington Gas Energy Services

### **Air Mobility Command Chief Scientist Receives Harold Brown Award**

*AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS AGENCY, OPERATING LOCATION - PENTAGON (DEC. 12, 2014)*

*Air Force Master Sgt. Lesley Waters*

WASHINGTON—Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James presented Dr. Donald Erbschloe, the Air Mobility Command chief scientist, with the 2014 Harold Brown Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon, Dec. 9.

The award, established in December of 1968 as a tribute to Dr. Harold Brown who was the eighth SecAF and 14th secretary of defense, is the highest award given by the United States Air Force to a scientist or engineer who applies scientific research to solve a problem critical to the needs of the Air Force.

"Each year we do this to recognize significant achievement in research and development by a single person who has demonstrated promise and substantial improvement in the operational effectiveness of the Air Force," James said. "Don really epitomizes the spirit of this award. He has translated research and development into increased operational capability."

During her remarks, James highlighted four of Erbschloe's accomplishments. The first was precision airdrop. Erbschloe provided critical leadership and expertise in the development of the High Speed Container Delivery system, which allows air drop bundles to land in a very small area and a Wireless Gate Release system, which helps improve performance by decreasing variability in the air drop release sequence.

She said these two field-proven innovations were used during the recent humanitarian efforts for those trapped at Mount Sinjar in Iraq.



Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James presents the 2014 Harold Brown Award to Dr. Don Erbschloe, Air Mobility Command's chief scientist, Dec. 9, 2014, during a ceremony held in the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. The award is given by the Air Force to a scientist or engineer who applies scientific research to solve a problem critical to the needs of the Air Force.

U.S. Air Force photo by Andy Morataya

"The ability to put a package exactly where it needs to be, when it needs to be there is a very important capability for the Air Force," James said.

The second accomplishment was the ability to defeat biological agents. Erbschloe developed the Joint Biological Agent Defeat system. He used a mixture of hot and humid air to decontaminate aircraft against the most robust of biological agents.

"This is important if, in the future we have to enter and then exit a contaminated area, in either peacetime or wartime," James said.

The chief scientist's third accomplishment revolved around the wind turbines and their effects on the air traffic control radars at Travis Air Force Base, California. The radars use Doppler technology, which relies on motion to identify aircraft. The large wind turbines in the local area were impacting air traffic operations, because they reflected radar energy back to the controllers, which caused increased clutter and the loss of identifying real targets/aircraft in the area. Erbschloe led a review and established a mutually beneficial research agreement between Travis AFB and the local wind

farm developers, which will help research and evaluate technical solutions to overcome radar target degradation.

"This will lead us to improved air traffic control ability and a better relationship between Travis [AFB] and the surrounding community," James said. "He took what was a major tension and made it a win-win for all parties."

The fourth and final accomplishment is called Surfing Aircraft Vortices for Energy (\$AVE). James compared \$AVE to cyclists competing in the annual Tour de France. Cyclists work together as teams in drafting off each other, which is a strategy to reduce wind resistance and help cyclists conserve energy throughout the course. Erbschloe applied the same principle to two aircraft flying in formation and at an optimal distance, reducing wind resistance and providing a five to six percent fuel savings without any significant disruption to passenger comfort.

James said five or six percent might not make a big difference, but when compared to a return on a savings account or less cost the Air Force will have to pay for aviation fuel in the future, the numbers get really big, really fast.

"This not only shows the creative intersection between technology and our operational needs, but Gen. Spencer [Air Force vice chief of staff] and I have this initiative called Make Every Dollar Count, where we are looking for efficiency—this is a really good one," James said.

Erbschloe acknowledged the Secretary of the Air Force's remarks and thanked her and everyone else present during the ceremony, to include Air Mobility Command Commander Gen. Darren McDew, who watched the ceremony from Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, via video transmission.

"I didn't do this by myself," Erbschloe said. "This award represents the hard work of dozens, if not scores, of individuals throughout organizations."

Erbschloe concluded the ceremony as it began, by recognizing the award's namesake, from a reference made by Dr. Robert H. Cannon Jr., who was the chief scientist for Brown.

He said when Brown was the secretary of the Air Force the general officers on the air staff really appreciated his leadership. They liked him because he was smart, he would champion their projects, and he got things done.

"What a role model," Erbschloe said. "It is in that spirit and on behalf of a lot of other people; I am privileged to accept this award."

### **Navy Commands Receive Federal Energy and Water Management Award**

*NAVY INSTALLATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DEC. 12, 2014)*

*Navy Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class John Belanger*

WASHINGTON—Four U.S. Navy Commands were honored with the Department of Energy (DoE)'s Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) 2014 Federal Energy and Water Management Awards at the National Archives, Dec. 9.

"The Department of Energy presents these awards annually with assistance from participating agencies and the Federal Interagency Energy Management task force," said Timothy Unruh, DoE FEMP director. "Since the first of these awards was presented in 1981, FEMP has recognized more than 1,200 winners."

This year FEMP honored 25 individuals and teams with Federal Energy and Water Management Awards. The recipients collectively contributed to saving approximately 2 trillion British thermal units (Btu) of energy, 1.3 billion gallons of water, 18.1 million gallons of fuel, and \$115.8 million in energy and water cost in fiscal year 2013.

The Navy has 70 installations around the globe, all of which are engaged in energy and water management efforts. Out of those, four commands stood out as exemplary for the DoE's FEMP award. They are:

- Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Virginia Beach, Virginia, which received an award for their energy program initiatives that saved 18 billion Btu and 39 million gallons of water.
- Naval District Washington, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Washington, D.C., which received an award for their comprehensive energy program that reduced energy intensity by nearly 19 percent and 13 percent from the respective baselines across the region's six installations.
- Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, China Lake, California, which received a project award for completing construction of a 13.78 megawatt solar photovoltaic system, the largest solar plant in the Navy.
- Public Works Department, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, which received a project award for implementing an air

conditioning improvement project that saves 61 billion Btu and \$2 million annually.

"The accomplishments of these individuals and teams and others like them throughout the government have all contributed greatly to our progress," said Unruh. "They continue to reach our goals across the government and the challenge set by the president—lead by example."

For more news from Commander, Navy Installations Command, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/cni/>.

### **SPAWAR Technical Director Receives Presidential Award**

*SPACE AND NAVAL WARFARE SYSTEMS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DEC. 16, 2014)*

*Krishna M. Jackson*

SAN DIEGO—Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Technical Director Bob Stephenson was recognized by President Barack Obama during an award ceremony in Washington, D.C., honoring federal workforce leaders, Dec. 9.

Stephenson, a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES), received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Senior Professional for "sustained accomplishment" during multiple operations and programs.

"Wow, it was amazing to be in a room with so many distinguished leaders," said Stephenson about attending the awards ceremony and being recognized among some of America's finest leaders by the president.

Stephenson was acknowledged for a number of accomplishments involving leadership, development, and the implementation of communications technologies, including command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I) performance superiority, critical communications technologies supporting major real-world operations, technological advancements within the realm of cyber security, and successfully collaborating with national and international organizations and agencies to ensure U.S. communications dominance.

"I want you to wake up every day knowing that the president of the United States appreciates you for making that difference," said Obama to the awardees.

Some of Stephenson's achievements include establishing communications and ensuring interoperability between U.S. forces and the Japanese Self Defense Force as part of the Joint Support Force (JSF) in response to the Great East Japan

Earthquake in 2011. He also served as the JSF science advisor to the commander, recommending surveillance solutions for monitoring radioactive water and its impact on the environment after the subsequent meltdown at the Funakoshi Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

As the technical lead for Operation Rolling Tide, Stephenson led a focused effort to develop a comprehensive cyber strategy that reduced and eliminated threats from a major cyber attack on Department of the Navy unclassified networks. The procedures and policies he developed to mitigate cyber threats were so successful they were adopted by other Services and Defense Agencies.

Stephenson oversaw the gathering and incorporation of C4I system performance feedback and recommendations resulting in the improved operational performance of 59 SPAWAR C4I systems. He designed and implemented a network and multi-national data sharing agreement for Combined Maritime Forces Pacific, significantly enhancing coalition information sharing and maritime security for 16 partner nations in the Pacific region.

"This award doesn't just validate the work I did, but it validates the work the FRD does. This is really a team award," said Stephenson.

Stephenson served in the Navy before moving on to work as a civilian analyst for government programs. He was integral to the development of many technical capabilities including the Combat and Control System MKI and Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange System (CENTRIXS). He has received many awards for his achievements, including two Navy Superior Civilian Service Awards and the Vice Presidential Award for Acquisition Reform (Group).

The Presidential Rank Awards program is managed by the Office of Personnel Management. The president recognizes two levels of awards—Distinguished and Meritorious—that are presented to SES, Senior Level (SL) and Scientific Professional federal employees. Competition is tough, with only 5 percent of the senior civilian ranks selected to receive the Meritorious level and one percent receiving the Distinguished-level awards. All federal agencies are allowed to nominate up to 9 percent of their SES, SL, and Scientific Professional leadership.

As the Navy's Information Dominance systems command, SPAWAR designs, develops, and deploys advanced communications and information capabilities for the warfighter. With nearly 10,000 acquisition professionals located around

the world and close to the fleet, the organization is at the forefront of research, engineering, and support services that provide vital decision superiority for the warfighter.

For more information on SPAWAR, visit: <http://www.public.navy.mil/spawar/Pages/default.aspx>. For more news from Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/spawar/>.

### **AMSAA Receives Three Army Modeling and Simulation Awards**

*U.S. ARMY MATERIEL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS ACTIVITY  
(DEC. 17, 2014)*

*AMSAA staff*

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.—The U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) recently received three Army Modeling and Simulation Team Awards for fiscal year 2014.

Each year, select individuals and teams are recognized for excellence in the Modeling and Simulation field for efforts during the previous fiscal year. This year 47 nominations were evaluated and four of AMSAA's analysts came out on top.

"I'm extremely proud that our analysts have been recognized for these modeling and simulation efforts. Their efforts reflect the increasing importance of modeling and simulation in decision making for Army leaders," said James Amato, director of AMSAA.

The AMSAA winners were: Dr. Martin Wayne, Pete Rigano, David Carrier, and Brad Frounfelker.

Dr. Martin Wayne was honored for his work on the "Dynamic Linear Regression Model for Small Arms Test and Evaluation." The project resulted in a more rigorously designed test, which will reduce cost during the systems developmental and operational testing, according to the award citation.

Testing costs routinely run in the millions of dollars and add substantial time into the Army acquisition cycle.

"This new approach to testing and analysis directly supports the Army's efforts to seek out and execute new test and evaluation efficiencies and supports the future Army," said Clarke J. Fox, chief of Logistics Analysis Division.

Pete Rigano was honored for his contribution to "Unclassified Data Development to Support Test and Training Communities."

Rigano enhanced performance data for use in training systems such as the Multiple Integrated Laser Effects Simulation (MILES).

Prior to his effort, thousands of soldiers training on the MILES systems at the National Training Center and other facilities relied on obsolete weapon effects data produced more than 20 years ago.

"Rigano's effort allows training events to incorporate the performance of new combat systems and ensures consistency across the training data sets to avoid negative training for our soldiers," said Bryan Paris, director of the Joint Technical Coordinating Group for Munitions Effectiveness Program Office. "The testing community will also be able to take advantage of updated data in conducting operational tests that incorporate MILES."

David Carrier and Brad Frounfelker were honored for their collaboration on "Shelter Thermal Energy Model (STEM)—Providing the Foundation for Base Camp Operational Energy Analysis."

Their project provides the foundational data that is required as the basis for almost all other base camp analyses. In analyses, STEM is used in conjunction with worldwide U.S. Air Force weather data to determine the energy required for heating and cooling of shelters and tents in weather conditions around the globe.

"Carrier and Frounfelker, from AMSAA's Power and Energy Team, worked for five years developing the STEM model and their innovation is used to create higher fidelity models," said Scott Schoeb, Chief of the Combat Support Analysis Division.

Philip DiSalvo, AMSAA's acting technical director said the modeling and simulation efforts provide significant efficiencies and improvements in test and evaluation, training, and analysis.

"They demonstrate the importance of M&S in the AMC 'equip and sustain' missions," DiSalvo said.

### **Charleston Maintenance Groups Earn Daedalian Trophy**

*315th AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DEC. 19, 2014)*

*Michael Dukes*

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C.—The C-17 Globemaster III maintainers from the 437th and 315th Maintenance Groups at Joint Base, Charleston, have once again demonstrated

that they are the cream of the crop, earning the 2014 Clements McMullen Memorial Daedalian Weapon System Maintenance Trophy.

"This award is a direct result of the outstanding men and women we have working on our aircraft here in the 315th MXG," said Col. Richard Gay, the 315th MXG commander. "The partnership we have with the 437th MXG is unparalleled anywhere else in the Air Force and I am very proud of each and every member of this group."

The Clements McMullen Memorial Daedalian Weapon System Maintenance Trophy, first awarded in 1960, is presented annually to an Air Force unit determined by Headquarters Air Force to have the best weapon system maintenance record for the preceding calendar year.

The 437th and 315th MXGs led Air Mobility Command's (AMC) call for humanitarian and contingency operational missions, ultimately logging 48,000 flying hours spanning 14,100 missions, carrying 83,000 personnel and 267,000 tons of cargo, according to the award citation.

Charleston's quality assurance inspectors topped 4,100 evaluations, and inspections and maintenance instructors taught more than 365 courses, amassing 20,000 instructional hours. Charleston championed 16 process improvement events, which saved more than \$143,000. Charleston was also the most utilized C-17 unit in AMC and was noted for their role in supporting former South African president Nelson Mandela's funeral. During 20 support missions, they maintained a 100 percent logistics departure reliability rate.

"Congratulations to the men and women of the 315th and 437th MXGs for their 2014 Daedalian Weapon System Maintenance Trophy win," said Col. Jamie Fontanella, the 315th Airlift Wing commander. "This accomplishment represents hard work, dedication, and exemplary total force integration. I'm proud that the best and most integrated maintenance groups in the Air Force have been recognized."

### **Army Honors Scientists with R&A Award**

*U.S. ARMY EDGEWOOD CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL CENTER COMMUNICATIONS (DEC. 29, 2014)*

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md.—Seven scientists and engineers from The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) received the 2013 Research and Development Achievement award.

The awards recognize top science and technology achievements in the Army over the past year.

According to the award criteria, recognized work should “exemplify dedication in basic research and technology development, all while supporting the Army’s goal to improve its technical capabilities and enhance national defense.”

The ECBC scientists are among only one percent of the Army’s total eligible scientists and engineers being honored with this award.

The recognized work should also support the Army’s goal to improve its technical capabilities and enhance national defense.

The four recognized ECBC projects—Raman Chemical Imaging of Explosive-Contaminated Fingerprints for Forensic Attribution; Biological Detection Using Mass Spectrometry-based Proteomics; Novel Zirconium Hydroxide Based Sorbent and Filter for Enhanced Toxic Chemical Protection; and ANACONDA—are all ways to introduce new or enhanced chemical and biological defense solutions to the armed forces.

“As we continue to change to meet today’s threats, the world is changing just as quickly, and if ECBC is going to remain the world’s premier lab for solving chemical and biological issues, we must continue to evolve and innovate just as the researchers have shown,” said Dr. Joseph Corriveau, acting ECBC director.

The ECBC awardees:

- Dr. Jason Guicheteau, ECBC Spectroscopy Branch (currently serving in Engineer and Scientists Exchange Program in the United Kingdom), Outstanding Technical Achievement Award, Raman Chemical Imaging of Explosive-Contaminated Fingerprints for Forensic Attribution
- Dr. Steve Christensen, ECBC Spectroscopy Branch, Outstanding Technical Achievement Award for Raman Chemical Imaging of Explosive-Contaminated Fingerprints for Forensic Attribution
- Phillip Wilcox, ECBC Spectroscopy Branch, Outstanding Technical Achievement Award for Raman Chemical Imaging of Explosive-Contaminated Fingerprints for Forensic Attribution
- Dr. Augustus W. Fountain III, ECBC Acting R&T Director, Outstanding Technical Achievement Award for Raman Chemical Imaging of Explosive-Contaminated Fingerprints for Forensic Attribution
- Dr. Rabih Jabbour, ECBC Detection Spectrometry Branch, Outstanding Technical Achievement Award for Biological Detection Using Mass Spectrometry-based Proteomics

- Gregory Peterson, Outstanding Technical Achievement Award, Novel Zirconium Hydroxide Based Sorbent and Filter for Enhanced Toxic Chemical Protection
- Vincent McHugh, ECBC Detection Spectrometry Branch, Outstanding Technical Leadership Award for the Airborne Networked Agent Collection/ON-board Detection Assembly, known as ANACONDA

“These recipients reflect the great diversity of talent and expertise within the Army Laboratory System that supports the future capabilities of our soldiers,” said Mary Miller, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Research and Technology in a memorandum announcing the winners. “These S&E personnel have distinguished themselves through their proven scientific and technical excellence or leadership.”

Awardees will receive a plaque recognizing their accomplishments at a later date.

### **Navy Announces Installation Excellence Award Winners**

NAVY INSTALLATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (JAN. 7, 2015)  
WASHINGTON—Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) has announced the Navy’s 2015 Installation Excellence Award Winners.

The annual installation excellence award recognizes the top three large and small installations world-wide and rewards installation performance consistent with Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) strategic criteria for the DoD-wide Commander in Chief Installation Excellence Awards.

“I am proud to congratulate all of our Navy Installation Command winners,” said Vice Adm. Dixon Smith, CNIC. “Competition this year was very tight and each of the nomination packages was impressive.”

The Navy’s top installation winners:

#### **Large:**

- 1st Place: Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola (Capt. K. W. Hoskins commanding)
- 2nd Place: NAS Oceana (Capt. C. W. Chope commanding)
- 3rd Place: Naval Base Ventura (Capt. L. R. Vasquez commanding)

#### **Small:**

- 1st Place: NAS Whiting Field (Capt. M. Coughlin commanding)
- 2nd Place: Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay (Capt. M. R. Moore commanding)
- 3rd Place: NSA Annapolis (Capt. L. Jones commanding)



The U.S. Army honored scientists and engineers from Edgewood Chemical Biological Center with the Research and Development Achievement Award. From left: Dr. Augustus W. Fountain III, Dr. Steve Christensen, Vincent McHugh, and Dr. Rabih Jabbour.

Photo by Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Communications

recognizes outstanding efforts in the operations and maintenance of U.S. military installations. Each branch of the military submits its nomination and an award is presented to the installation whose command has made best use of available resources to accomplish its assigned mission over the course of the preceding fiscal year.

Smith also praised the other awardees and said that all 19 nomination packages detailed the hard work and outstanding accomplishments for the submitting installations, which is indicative of their commitment to supporting the Fleet, the fighters, and their families.

For more information about Navy shore installations, visit <http://www.cnic.navy.mil>. For more news from Commander, Navy Installations Command, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/cni/>.

### **Engineering Teams Selected for Research, Development Excellence Awards**

*AVIATION AND MISSILE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (JAN. 20, 2015)*

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.—Three teams of engineers from the Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) earned 2013 Army Research and Development Engineering (RDA) Awards.

Both NAS Pensacola and NAS Whiting Field as first-place winners automatically compete for the nomination to represent the Navy for the DoD-wide 2015 Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence, which will be announced in the spring.

"I am delighted to announce that Naval Air Station Pensacola is the Navy's nominee for the Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence," said Smith. "Congratulations to Capt. Hoskins, and the men and women of NAS Pensacola who worked diligently to make their installation the best in the Navy, and hopefully in all of DoD."

Established in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan, the Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence

RDA awards are presented to individuals or teams of eligible scientists, engineers, and technicians whose contributions were responsible for a significant scientific or engineering event.

The AMRDEC recipients and their projects are:

- Un-cooled Infrared Technology in A Man-Portable Fire and Forget Missile Application. A team working in the Infrared and Optical Technology Area within the Weapons Development and Integration Directorate at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., advanced the state-of-the-art of extended range fire and forget missile seeker technology with the in-house development and demonstration of a new seeker design. The design permits an increase of 40 percent in engagement range capability for manportable missiles. The new seekers use off-the-shelf technology, are less ex-



Kiowa aircraft inside wind tunnel.

U.S. Army photo

pensive, and provide warfighters with increased standoff range. A patent is pending on the government design. Team members include Kyle Bryant, Christopher Dobbins, Caleb Waddle, and Sam Wood.

- Development and Test of Cable Angle Feedback Control Systems Improve Handling Qualities for Helicopters with Slung Loads. Christina Ivler and Lt. Col. Carl Ott, of the Aviation Development Directorate, Aeroflight Dynamics Directorate at Moffett Field, Calif. developed a novel aircraft flight control system that uses automatic switching between the aircraft and the pilot when conducting sling load operations. This system significantly improved aircraft handling qualities and reduced pilot workload, as well as reducing critical exposure time to hostile threats.
- Wind Tunnel Testing and Performance Analysis for the OH 58F Kiowa Warrior. A team of Aerospace Engineers with the Aviation Development Directorate, Aeroflight Dynamics Directorate at Moffett Field, Calif., conducted a wind tunnel test that provided the first ever test of a scale model aircraft fuselage with all of the mission equipment, weapons, and countermeasures installed on the test aircraft. The team completed numerous wind tunnel tests over 13 weeks, which created significant data required for the refinement of the Armed Scout helicopter and also provided a new theoretical basis for the development

of future aircraft. Team members were: Preston Martin, Philip Tanner, Oliver Wong, Brendon Malovrh, and Austin Overmeyer.

“These awards reinforce the importance of the overall AMRDEC mission in adding value to the current and future battlespace. Aviation and missile technologies and systems will be great enablers for a more flexible, expeditionary, and precise lethality effects engagement,” said AMRDEC Director James Lackey. “Our AMRDEC engineers represent a group of some of the brightest, energetic minds translating the art of the possible into realistic state of the art. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to all who are and have been recognized for this highly visible and noteworthy award.”

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Technology, Mary J. Miller in a November, 2014 memorandum announcing the winners, said that the 121 RDA Award recipients represent just over one percent of the eligible Army science and engineering personnel. “These recipients reflect the great diversity of talent and expertise within the Army laboratory system that supports the future capabilities of our soldiers,” she said. “Their pioneering work and dedication in basic research and technology development

promise to improve the Army's technical capabilities and enhance our national defense."

AMRDEC is part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, which has the mission to develop technology and engineering solutions for America's soldiers. AMRDEC employs nearly 11,000 civilian scientists, researchers, and engineers.

### **AFRL Researcher Teams With Nobel Laureate To Enable New Breed of Rocket Component Materials**

AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY (JAN. 21, 2015)

Holly Jordan

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio.—Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) scientist Dr. Rusty Blanski recently teamed with Dr. Robert Grubbs, a Nobel Laureate from the California Institute of Technology to develop a groundbreaking new technology that could reduce erosion in metallic rocket components, reduce production costs, and open the door for the use of new, environmentally friendly propellants.

Working under the Air Force Office of Scientific Research's Visiting Scientist Program and a Cooperative Research and Development project with Caltech, Blanski, an expert in the field of oxidation-resistant materials, worked side-by-side with Grubbs, an expert in organometallic and synthetic catalysts. Through this collaboration, the two researchers sought to study techniques that could create a new class of olefin metathesis catalysts and allow the development of new and more affordable oxidation-resistant metal coatings for rocket engine components.

Oxidation is an issue in rocket engines and components because their extreme operational environments, including temperatures that can reach 3500 degrees Fahrenheit, accelerate oxidation, causing premature erosion and weakening of components. In the past, exotic metals that are capable of surviving such extreme conditions have been used for these components, making the parts difficult to manufacture and very costly.



Dr. Rusty Blanski turns off a reaction in his lab. He and Nobel Laureate Dr. Robert Grubbs collaborated to develop a new technology that could reduce erosion in metallic rocket components, reduce production costs, and open the door for the use of new, environmentally friendly propellants.

Courtesy photo

Blanski developed the organometallic precursors for a process called Supercritical Chemical Fluid Deposition, which allows the deposition of a layer of oxidation-resistant metal, such as iridium or nickel, onto almost any metal surface. This process allows uniform coating on even small, intricate parts and thin slots, so that the entire surface is protected. This process makes possible the use of less expensive, lighter, and more easily obtainable component materials.

Through their collaborative efforts at Caltech, Blanski and Grubbs developed new precursors and synthetic methodologies to allow the process to be further refined to allow the deposition to occur at lower temperatures, which increases the metal deposit yield and speeds the coating process.

This coating technology can be applied to catalyst bed-plates used to create a protective surface for chemically induced, in-space thrusters. This work is important because currently there is no type of catalyst bed that can withstand the oxidation environment necessary for the AFRL-developed AF-M315 Green Monopropellant. Using the precursors developed through Blanski's and Grubbs' work could enable the use of this and other types of environmentally friendly propellants for in-space propulsion.

Additionally, the oxidation protection enabled by this process could also be used for other rocket components such as nozzle walls or combustion chambers, to protect the cooling channels from eroding. Turbine engines may also benefit from this technology.

Blanski says the collaboration was an exciting opportunity that offered benefits for both sides.

"It was a wonderful experience working in Bob's labs and interacting with him and his highly talented research group," says Blanski. "It is also a true win-win collaboration, where the Air Force receives technology from Caltech and Caltech benefits with the development of a new class of olefin metathesis catalysts."

Caltech recently filed a joint provisional patent on behalf of Blanski and Grubbs to allow for future development and potential commercial use of this technology.

### **PEO CS&CSS Singled Out with Army Superior Unit Award**

*PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR COMBAT SUPPORT AND COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS (JAN. 26, 2015)*

*Rae Higgins*

Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh has honored the Army's Program Executive Office for Combat Support and Combat Service Support (PEO CS&CSS) with the Army Superior Unit Award for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service" during Fiscal Year 2013.

PEO CS&CSS is headquartered in Warren, Mich., and is part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. More than 1,000 military and civilian employees assigned to five project offices and 25 product offices in Warren, Huntsville, Ala., Natick, Mass., and Fort Belvoir, Va., direct and coordinate the life cycle management of hundreds of Army systems spanning most of the Army's transportation, ordnance, quartermaster, and engineer equipment portfolios.

The PEO CS&CSS team touches nearly every system commanders need to move soldiers to the fight, sustain them in place, and bring them home again. This includes the Army's entire tactical wheeled vehicle fleet, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles, route clearance, Army watercraft, construction and material handling, bridging, shelters, mobile power generation, and other force projection systems.

Although not a "traditional" Army unit, the PEO is an innovative, disciplined life-cycle management team enabling America's warfighters by unburdening soldiers in the field. Its employees provide and improve the integrated, combat-enabling systems warfighters need to dominate the full spectrum of Joint and Unified Land Operations.

This award distinguishes the PEO as one of only a handful of acquisition organizations to receive such prestigious recognition. The Army's Superior Unit Award is a decoration that is awarded to units that display outstanding meritorious performance of a difficult and challenging mission carried out under extraordinary circumstances.

"While the award covers a period of performance dating back nearly two years, this distinguishes our PEO as one of the finest organizations in the U.S. Army," said Scott J. Davis, Program Executive Officer, Combat Support and Combat Service Support. "I am proud of our accomplished, professional acquisition team delivering effective, affordable

combat-enabling capabilities. This honor is a testament to our employees' dedication to and love of the soldiers they serve."

The military and civilian employees who comprise the PEO were cited for outstanding support of soldiers engaged in combat operations and preparing future combat support capabilities.

Specifically, for fiscal year 2013 the PEO is recognized for:

- Delivering outstanding support to soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coalition forces in every Geographic Combatant Command and often engaged in combat operations, despite tremendous fiscal, operational, and programmatic challenges in today's environment.
- Serving as outstanding stewards of a \$2 billion appropriation, including effectively fielding more than 14,000 tactical wheeled vehicles and conducting 2,000-plus in-theater survivability upgrades.
- Devising a groundbreaking approach to contingency base fuel management, which saved 77,500 gallons per month, all while exploring wide-ranging operational energy improvements in theater-represented base-camp laboratory environments.
- Identifying numerous cost-saving and cost-avoidance opportunities expected to yield \$780 million in benefits over five years.
- Pursuing a mature, affordable solution to today's light tactical wheeled vehicle capability gap, marked by receipt of the U.S. Defense Department's 2013 David Packard Award for Acquisition Excellence and on-schedule progress toward fielding the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle.

The ceremony to present the Army Superior Unit Award to PEO CS&CSS employees is tentatively scheduled sometime this spring.