

their history. In developmental testing, the workload has gone up in some areas and is down or steady in others." Overall, Coyle emphasized, the developmental test workload is steady and very robust. And overall it has not gone down as people thought it would earlier in the decade.

No. 9 — Industry Reliance On DoD Test Ranges

Industry is under many of the same pressures to consolidate their T&E capabilities as at DoD test ranges, said Coyle. With each new merger, large defense contractors have found that they must work to reduce their test infrastructure. But can they count on the DoD?

"To rely on DoD test ranges," said Coyle, "industry needs to be sure of three things: First, they need to know that we will be there when they need us, that we will honor their schedules. Second, they need to know what testing will cost and be able to depend on that price. And third, they need to know that we can keep a secret, that they can test proprietary ideas and keep them proprietary."

Coyle went on to say that the same is true for global partners. If other nations bring work to DoD test ranges or DoD takes work to theirs, protocols are needed that protect the interests of both parties, including the environment, cost sharing, and scheduling. An example Coyle cited was the recently renewed partnership the United States has with Canada at the Nanoose Range, not far from Vancouver. The United States benefits from the natural properties of a unique underwater test area and a 35-year partnership of good will and cooperation.

No. 10 — Funding for New Ideas and Concepts

Coyle stated his belief that there is opportunity for the people at DoD's test centers — people who have new ideas and new concepts. "I believe we need funding for research in T&E. Some of your new ideas need to be tried out before you can sell them to a program manager. This takes test technology funding. It's astonishing to me that the Services have no



Thomas E. Peoples, Senior Vice President, International and Washington Operations, GenCorp, delivers the Industry keynote address, "Strategic Vision for the Future of Defense and Allied Cooperation."

money for research in better ways to do testing; they should have. To give our people every opportunity to succeed, we need to invest in their ideas. I've begun the process to obtain new applied research funds to allow this to take place."

Making a Difference

Coyle spoke of the single most important step testers and evaluators can take to maximize their T&E opportunities. "First, every day tell someone — someone who you think can make a difference — about the special problems you face at your range or test center, in your business or industry. That includes people in the Military Departments, and at the test centers, as well as me. No one is conveying these messages well, and as a result very few people actually know what kinds of problems you have. I try to do this every day; often several times a day.

Coyle told the audience they'd be amazed at how few people in Congress or OSD or the Military Departments have the faintest idea about the cuts T&E has endured. "They think you haven't suffered as much as the rest of the Army, or the Navy, or the Air Force. Or that your industry hasn't suffered as much as others. People are surprised when I explain the severity of the cuts; at first they don't believe me because they haven't heard of the impacts before."

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

1999 TESTERS OF THE YEAR

A highlight of the conference was the awards banquet where the following individuals were recognized as Outstanding Testers of the Year.

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Civilian

Eric L. Kech, Technical Advisor, JADS/JTF

Military

Army Col. Terry Mitchell, OSD/DOT&E

Contractor

Dale Leischer, Sikorsky

Department of the Army

Civilian

Colleen Devlin, USAEC

Military

Army Maj. Layne B. Merrit, USADTC

Contractor

Robert Hadden, Maden Tech Consulting, Inc.

Department of the Navy

Civilian

James A. O'Neill, NAVSEA

Military

Navy Cmdr. Jeffrey R. Penfield, OT&EF

Contractor

Chris Baniewicz, Lockheed Martin

Department of the Air Force

Civilian

Gary L. Black, Tyndall AFB

Military

Air Force Capt. Charles D. Ormsby, Holloman, AFB

Contractor

Emmett A. Redding, MacAulay Brown Inc.