

# OUTSTANDING DCMA ACHIEVEMENTS

## Rieben Awarded NASA's Highest Honor for Quality and Safety

May 10, 2007



Arthur Rieben, fourth from left, with his NASA Quality and Safety Achievement Recognition Award, NASA's highest honor for quality and safety.

Arthur Rieben, a quality assurance specialist for DCMA Marshall/Stennis Support Center, attained NASA's highest honor for quality and safety, the Quality and Safety Achievement Recognition Award. According to Mike Smiles, director of NASA's Safety and Mission Assurance office at the John C. Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, this is the first time anyone from the center earned the agency-wide award. "We're very proud of Art for receiving this award, and we're proud for the center," Smiles said. "It's a significant award, and I hope it will motivate employees not only to work safely but to nominate and recognize people who do so."

Rieben traveled to NASA headquarters in Washington, D.C., for a ceremony, during which Shana Dale, NASA's deputy administrator, presented him with a monetary award and plaque. The award recognizes Rieben's

"exemplary performance, contributing to the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of [NASA] lifting device and equipment operations."

Each nominee was chosen by his or her center director and then evaluated by each center's Safety and Mission Assurance director. Rieben initially was nominated for the award by his team lead, Thelma Cox, whose recommendation outlined his "positive initiative and successful problem resolution of technical issues" relating to NASA's Lifting Device and Equipment team. The team assures the removal, transport and reinstallation of Space Shuttle main engines on and off the test stands and tests all support equipment.

In 2006, Rieben oversaw nearly 120 such operations without one instance of damage to the equipment or engines, nor any injury to personnel. He is considered an expert for resolving technical issues and provides exceptional leadership and attention to detail. "Art's really a top-notch employee," said DCMA team chief Herb Hostler. "He's industrious, dedicated and reliable. He does what he has been assigned to do and does it very well. It's fitting that he's being recognized for his work." Rieben is modest about his achievement: "I've been working with flight hardware since 1980. I've had a lot of memorable moments in my 35 years in aerospace. It's an honor just to be nominated for the prestigious QASAR Award, but being selected is right up there among the highlights of my career."

Also attending the ceremony were Air Force Col. Ray Harris, DCMA NASA Product Operations commander; Wayne Reynolds, DCMA Marshall/Stennis Support Center director; Thelma Cox, lead quality assurance specialist, Stennis Team; and Air Force Col. Jeffrey Brand, DCMA chief of staff.

— By Sharon Worgan, program analyst, DCMA NASA Product Operations

## Four Awards for Aircraft Propulsion Operations

May 11, 2007



From left: Kevin Bartol, Air Force Capt. Garrett Fisher and Claudia Wells (Photo by Carl Sampson, DCMA APO Pratt & Whitney)  
Not pictured: John Ulshoeffter

Four Defense Contract Management Agency Aircraft Propulsion Operations employees were awarded Connecticut Federal Executive Association's 2007 *Excellence in Government Awards*. Outstanding Connecticut federal employees in 15 award categories were announced and honored at the annual CFEA awards ceremony and luncheon. The *Excellence in Government Awards* program honors the "best of the best" in local federal service. Awards are issued primarily in recognition of exemplary job performance, remarkable contributions and outstanding coordination of federal and community programs.

The CFEA is a statewide organization of executives from federal agencies and departments located in Connecticut. CFEA membership includes the offices of Connecticut's congressional representatives, U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Veterans Administration healthcare system, federal prisons, DCMA and other Department of Defense components, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Small Business Administration and other civilian agencies. The CFEA *Excellence in Government Awards* are open to Connecticut's more than 20,000 federal employees. DCMA APO had nominees in 10 of the 15 award categories.

## DCMA APO's CFEA 2007 Award Winners Outstanding Diversity Contribution

**Claudia Wells, administrative contracting officer, DCMA APO Pratt & Whitney, and Equal Employment Opportunity coordinator**

Wells was recognized for consistently exceeding requirements for achieving the objective of furthering the principles of diversity. Wells, who has served on the DCMA Pratt & Whitney EEO committee for 15 years, has shown leadership, imagination, innovation and perseverance in her collateral duties as EEO coordinator.

**Professional Employee of the Year – Administrative  
Air Force Capt. Garrett Fisher, F119 engine program integrator, DCMA APO Pratt & Whitney**

Fisher was honored for his commitment to DCMA's mission of supporting the warfighter and his outstanding leadership, teamwork and exceptional customer service. With Fisher's leadership, the F119 program support team has consistently performed outstandingly in a performance-based management environment. Consequently, this team has received several recognitions from customers and aerospace associations.

## Distinguished Federal Supervisor

**Kevin Bartol, Contracts Operations Team supervisor, DCMA APO Pratt & Whitney**

Bartol received the award for his devotion to duty, integrity, supervisory vision and leadership skills. He has built a unique and supportive relationship with his employees, and his supervisory skills and commitment to employees have consistently resulted in a team that performs extremely well. The team also has been exceedingly productive with regard to achieving the agency's mission and performance-based management goals.

## Distinguished Federal Executive

**John Ulshoeffter, DCMA APO deputy commander**

Ulshoeffter was honored for his commitment to community and public service, devotion to duty and outstanding leadership in support of DCMA's mission and vision. His own vision and strong leadership led to the development of the product- or commodity-based contract management office concept. His vision was realized with the July 2004 establishment of the APO organization. His role in forming this innovative organizational model and its rapid progress gave the

agency confidence that a divisional restructuring along commodity lines could achieve higher levels of customer satisfaction and value to warfighters. Ulshoeffter became the Aeronautical System Division's contract operations support director in April 2007. He has been an active CFEA participant and supporter for several years, and he volunteers his time to community agencies that provide services to the elderly and the homeless.

— By Shirley B. Zachery, DCMA APO Pratt & Whitney

### **DCMA Texas Employee Receives Federal Executive Board Public Service Appreciation Award**

*May 24, 2007*



Interagency ADR committee members, seated, from left: Reta Oliver, A.J. Jones, Jerry Ann Foster, Melissa Putman and Linda Langston; standing, from left: Frank Martinez, William Bell, Kenneth Majewski and Emerson Lattimore; not shown: Sue Maxwell, Adeline Smyth and Michael Gonzales

DCMA Texas Attorney Kenneth Majewski, a member of the Interagency Alternate Dispute Resolution Committee, received a Public Service Appreciation Award from the Federal Executive Board at the Annual Salute to the Stars. The FEB's Interagency ADR Committee provides management for the Dallas/Fort Worth Shared Neutrals Program and oversight of a cadre of 79 skilled mediators from federal offices throughout north central Texas. Committee members receive Public Service Appreciation Awards for their

dedication to dispute resolution and service to the north Texas federal community. These mediation services are available to federal agencies upon request.

— Courtesy of the Federal Executive Board

### **Meritorious Service and Joint Service Commendation Medals Presented**

*June 29, 2007*



From left: Air Force Maj. Kurt Chelf, Navy Capt. John Westerbeke and Air Force Capt. Giuseppe DiPietrantonio

Air Force Maj. Kurt Chelf, team leader, corporate operations team, DCMA Aircraft Propulsion Operations – GE Aviation, and Air Force Capt. Giuseppe DiPietrantonio, deputy program integrator, F136 Joint Strike Fighter Engine Program, DCMA Aircraft Propulsion Operations – GE Aviation, were recognized for their service by Navy Capt. John Westerbeke, DCMA Aircraft Propulsion Operations commander, during a recent ceremony at DCMA Aeronautical Systems Division's Aircraft Propulsion Operations – GE Aviation in Cincinnati, Ohio. Chelf was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and DiPietrantonio was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

— Cheryl A. McClymonds, DCMA Aircraft Propulsion Operations