



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Never a Dull Moment!

One thing about DCMA ... it is never dull around here!

We've been busy for a couple of years implementing performance-based management — PBM — practices in all our operations. That, in and of itself, is a significant enough challenge. Now let's add to that the fact that we are "spiraling" our non-bargaining unit employees into the National Security Personnel System, preparing for a base realignment and closure commission-directed move in two years to Fort Lee, Va., and adding additional civilian personnel to our deployed contingency contracting staff in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Most of you know that I was named director of DCMA in February and will be retiring at the end of April. While you may

ask why the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics elected to make this appointment given my impending retirement, it was simply that this process was started in 2006 and this concluded the action. It was also a recognition by the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics that DCMA was on the right path in product alignment, PBM and support to the warfighter and of your superb work during my tenure as the acting director.

As you welcome a new director and deputy director aboard in the coming months, I do not expect that you will see significant changes in course direction or speed. I would think some course correction by the new director may be necessary, but you are certainly steaming along the course that the senior leadership team has plotted for you. You will still

work to integrate PBM into daily agency operations concurrently with attempting to integrate the principles of lean and Six Sigma into your operational regimen so that we may be more efficient and effective. We will also work to integrate our new theater responsibilities into our normal mission routine.

This will be the last time that I address you as your director in the pages of *Communicator*. I thank each one of you for your support of me and for your efforts on behalf of the warfighters. Godspeed and good luck, DCMA, in all your future endeavors.

Warmly,



Keith D. Ernst
Director
DCMA

DCMA Director
Keith D. Ernst

Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

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Mark Woodbury

Editorial, Layout and Design
Katherine Crawford, Stewart McKenzie & Jaclyn Pitts, BTRC

Technology Research Corporation,
8260 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive,
Suite 800, Fairfax, VA. 22031
phone: (703) 204-9777

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phone: (301) 736-3390
fax: (301) 736-3395

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