

# AROUND DCMA



## AIR FORCE SELECTS DCMA EMPLOYEE AS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

*By Air Force Col. Cliff Chi, DCMA Space and Missiles Division*

The Air Force Academy Admissions Liaison Office Program selected Defense Contract Management Agency Air Force Reservist Lt. Col. Patrick Giddens, DCMA Northern California and DCMA Space Satellite Operations Reserve team leader, as the 2009 Area 54 Additional Duty Admissions Liaison Officer of the Year. Area 54 encompasses Northern California, from San Jose to the Oregon border.

According to the citation, Giddens was selected for this award due to his professionalism, dedication and results-driven focus. As an ALO, Giddens identifies, assesses and mentors college-bound high school students interested in attending the Air Force Academy or being part of a university's Reserve Officer Training Corps program. An academy education is valued at more than \$400,000 for the four-year program, while ROTC scholarships can offer full tuition, board and stipends to students. Universities that offer the ROTC program range from Ivy League institutions to state universities.

Giddens has been an ALO for 19 years, and he continues to enjoy the interaction with the students aspiring to become Air Force officers. He commented that his biggest sense of accomplishment, however, comes when he is able to see someone he has mentored become an Air Force officer.

In civilian life, Giddens is a certified financial planner for Johnson Lyman Wealth Advisors in Palo Alto, Calif. He is one of three lead advisors working with high-net-worth individuals on their personal financial wellbeing. He has also provided pro bono financial planning for the local Navy reserve unit.



*Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates poses for a picture with Defense Contract Management Agency Oshkosh employees.*

## DCMA EMPLOYEES MEET SECRETARY GATES

*By Sam Rousso, DCMA Public Affairs*

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates recently visited the facilities of Ground Systems and Munitions Division contractor Oshkosh Defense in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to emphasize the criticality of the company's product — the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicle — and to express the Department of Defense's gratitude for the company's efforts on this program.

During his visit, Gates accepted the company's 1,000th vehicle and spoke to the Defense Contract Management Agency Oshkosh workforce briefly before posing for a photo.