

Director: Awards Show Agency Excellence

Jo Adail Stephenson | DCMA Public Affairs

Three Defense Contract Management Agency personnel received prestigious awards

recognizing the depth and breadth of excellence at all organization levels in the midst of the agency's internal realignment

and headquarters' Base Realignment and closure move to Fort Lee, Va.

DCMA Director Charlie E. Williams, Jr., received the distinguished Public Sector Partner of the Year Award at the 8th Annual Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce

Greater Washington Government Contractor Awards held at The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner in McLean, Va.

DCMA Central Regional Command personnel Army Col. Frank Steinbugl and Patrick Losse each received a 2010 Under



During an interview in his office, Charlie E. Williams, Jr., Defense Contract Management Agency director, described how the awards DCMA employees have received reflect the agency's excellence. Williams was recently honored with the Public Sector Partner of the Year Award.



Defense Contract Management Agency Director Charlie E. Williams, Jr., visits a factory floor where DCMA provides quality assurance and other support to provide warfighters with state-of-the-art equipment. DCMA's partnerships and working relationships with contractors and the private sector were recognized at the 8th Annual Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Greater Washington Government Contractor Awards with the Public Sector Partner of the Year Award.

Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Workforce Achievement award during a ceremony at the Program Executive Officers'/Systems Command Commanders' Conference at Fort Belvoir, Va.

In terms of what these awards mean to the agency and what the recognition says about DCMA's workforce, Williams said these awards are really about DCMA's core value of excellence.

"We talk about integrity, service and excellence. These awards were really about the excellence piece — constantly doing excellent work in support of the customer, the warfighter and the taxpayer," he said. "To the extent we adhere to that, you'll see people across the agency getting awards like this, being recognized by their customers for the exceptional operationally oriented work we do to support them being able to meet their combat or noncombat mission requirements."

Williams' award recognizes outstanding procurement professionals for demonstrated leadership and vision in building partnerships with the private sector and leading change in the procurement community. Even though this was an individual award, Williams said it reflects the agency's hard work and the continuing partnerships the agency has developed with industry.

"Our mission requires us to be able to be the interface between the department's acquisition community and industry in our management and execution of contracts," he said, adding that the agency has a significant need to bring the acquisition community and industry together to accomplish the department's business.

"We can't stick our head in the sand and say, 'Our way or the highway.' We need to understand what things we do that create challenges and burdens for industry, and, likewise, we need to be able to communicate the things they are doing to cause us problems," he said. "We were recognized because we continue to reach out and keep those lines of communication open."

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— Charlie E. Williams, Jr.,
Defense Contract Management
Agency director

Steinbugl, the current DCMA Detroit commander, received the 2010 USD(AT&L) Workforce Achievement contract auditing award for his accomplishments while he was the DCMA Iraq commander. At the contract management office level, Williams said commanders are overcoming the challenges of a lack of resources and inconsistent application of policy and process and delivering on their customers' requirements.

"As challenging as things are, commanders are engaging with customers to articulate and identify where the risks are in the business and the issues that need to be dealt with on an ongoing basis," Williams said. "Recently, we've had some of our commanders step up and raise their hands to become our first regional commanders. They have taken on a dual-hat responsibility and again stretched themselves to ensure the work we have to do gets done."

Williams said he is "really pleased and proud of what our folks are doing. These are some incredible people who not only do the work inside DCMA but also, through partnerships, serve as the eyes and ears for the department with industry."

Losse received the 2010 USD(AT&L) Workforce Achievement contracting and procurement award for his accomplishments when he voluntarily

assumed responsibility for all quality assurance functions as the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicle, or M-ATV, coordinator at DCMA Oshkosh, Wis.

Williams indicated DCMA employees at the technical specialist level also are assuming responsibilities beyond the scope of their present jobs to do things they sometimes may or may not be comfortable with.

"In fact, in many cases, they are themselves inventing and laying the path forward to help get us down the road at the end of the day," he said.

The awards are indicative of the stellar work employees are accomplishing at every level of the agency.

"These awards highlight the achievements our folks are making, and, through continuous strategic communication, we must ensure everyone in the agency can see there are great opportunities to excel on behalf of our customers," Williams said.

For new DCMA employees, Williams said, "We desire for DCMA to be an employer of choice. We have a lot of work to do. We must ensure our new employees get connected to the agency and feel a sense of belonging, feel a sense of mission, are constantly mentored and get support when they need it."

His message is clear to all employees: "It's important for our employees to see that doing a good job is appreciated. We need to continuously communicate that across the agency," Williams said. "I think it's just as important for new folks to see this as it is for people who have been with DCMA for a long time. Our mission is the right mission. It's a very important mission, and our customers appreciate what we do and want more of it." 