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2005 AAC Awards Ceremony Recognizes Acquisition Stars

Arlington, VA Oct. 2, 2005 — The acquisition community held its 2005 Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Annual Awards Ceremony here Sunday, Oct. 2, 2005, at the Crystal City Gateway Marriott. The event recognized the accomplishments of the acquisition workforce's most extraordinary members and the teams they lead. The ceremony's theme, "Celebrating Our Acquisition Stars," was a tribute to the uniformed and civilian professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide combatant commanders and their Soldiers the weapons and equipment they need to execute decisive, full-spectrum operations in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

"Tonight we honored some of the outstanding men and women — military and civilian — of the Army Acquisition Corps and the greater Army acquisition, logistics and technology workforce," remarked the Honorable Claude M. Bolton Jr., Army Acquisition Executive and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASAALT), who hosted the event. "As a community, we are facing some of our greatest challenges. We are serving a Nation at war and a military force that is transforming while fighting. It is clear that we have charted the right course — increasing capability, flexibility and sustainability — and that we must maintain the tremendous momentum we have built. With great challenges come great opportunities for success."

"Our courageous men and women in uniform display unrelenting tenacity, steadfast purpose, quiet confidence and selfless heroism," Bolton observed. "Let us continue to work hard and work together to ensure their decisive victory and safe return. They face threats that change — quite literally — overnight, and their success in meeting these challenges rests squarely on our collective shoulders."

U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center Director Craig A. Spisak presided over the event as Master of Ceremonies. Other Army and defense acquisition senior leaders present included Dean G. Popp, Principal Deputy to the ASAALT and Director for Iraq Reconstruction and Program Management; Lt. Gen. Joseph L. Yakovac, Military Deputy to the ASAALT and Director, Acquisition Career Management; Dr. Nancy Spruill, Director, Acquisition Resources and Analysis, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics; Tina Ballard, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Policy and Procurement; Wimpy D. Pybus, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Integrated Logistics Support; Dr. Thomas H. Killion, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology and Chief Scientist; and former Military Deputy to the ASAALT Lt. Gen. (Ret.) John S. Caldwell.

(more)

The evening's presentations included the Secretary of the Army Excellence in Contracting Awards, Life Cycle Logistician of the Year Award, Army Research and Development Laboratory of the Year Awards, the Secretary of the Army Awards for Acquisition Commander, Project and Product Managers of the Year and the Army Acquisition Excellence Awards. [See attached list of winners.]

"The United States Armed Forces are the world's most powerful, most capable and most respected military force," Bolton exclaimed. "It is a legacy that we inherited, and one that we must protect. Tonight, we will recognize those among us who are the best and the brightest, but in the world's best Army – America's Army – we are all winners."

For more information about the 2005 AAC Awards Ceremony, please contact Mike Roddin at (703) 805-1035 or e-mail mike.rodin@us.army.mil.

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The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (ASC) supports Army warfighter readiness by developing a world-class professional acquisition workforce, effectively acquiring and stewarding resources and providing customers with the best possible products and services. For additional information about ASC, visit <http://asc.army.mil>.

Secretary of the Army Excellence in Contracting Awards for Fiscal Year 2004*Outstanding Contracting Officer (Civilian) at Installation-Level Center*

Beth A. Mendell, U.S. Army Contracting Agency (ACA) Northern Region

Outstanding Contracting Officer (Civilian) at Installation-Level Satellite

Mary Pat Shanahan, ACA Northern Region

Outstanding Contracting Officer (Civilian) in Specialized Contracting

Matthew J. Franzen, U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM)
Life Cycle Management Command (LCMC)

Outstanding Contracting Officer (Civilian) in Systems Contracting

Pamela A. Demeulenaere, U.S. Army TACOM LCMC

Outstanding Contracting Officer (Military) at Installation-Level Center

Master Sgt. Christopher W. Chapple, ACA Southern Region

Outstanding Contracting Officer (Military) in Contingency Contracting

Maj. Robert W. Shelton, ACA Northern Region

Professionalism in Contracting (Civilian)

Wendy J. McCutcheon, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics LCMC

Professionalism in Contracting (Military)

Col. Scott O. Risser, ACA Headquarters

Unit/Team for Installation-Level Contracting Center

Anniston Army Depot Directorate of Contracting, U.S. Army TACOM LCMC

Unit/Team for Installation-Level Contracting Satellite

Fort Campbell Directorate of Contracting, ACA Southern Region

Unit/Team for Specialized Contracting

ACA Pacific Region

Unit/Team for Systems Contracting

- Stryker Brigade Combat Team, U.S. Army TACOM LCMC
- Future Combat Systems Team, U.S. Army TACOM LCMC

Exceptional Support of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act Program

Mark Lumer, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command

Life Cycle Logistician of the Year Award

David W. Manning, Program Executive Office (PEO) Simulation, Training and Instrumentation

Army Research and Development Laboratory of the Year Award*Large Research Laboratory of the Year*

U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center

Large Development Laboratory of the Year

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center

Small Development Laboratory of the Year

U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center

Collaboration Team of the Year

- The U.S. Army Research Laboratory and the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center collaborated on the “Barrel Reshaping Initiative” for the M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank
- The U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center; the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center; and the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine collaborated on the “Cool the Force” Vehicle Mounted Personal Cooling Program designed to alleviate Soldier heat stress in tactical vehicles

Secretary of the Army Awards for Acquisition Commander, Project and Product Managers of the Year*2005 Acquisition Commander of the Year (Colonel Level)*

- Col. Victoria H. Diego-Allard, U.S. Army Contracting Command-Europe
- Col. Stephen D. Kreider, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Army Test and Evaluation Command

2005 Acquisition Commander of the Year (Lieutenant Colonel Level)

- Lt. Col. Robert W. Schumitz, XVIII Airborne Corps Contracting Command
- Lt. Col. Shane Dietrich, Yuma Test Center

Project Manager of the Year

- Col. William Crosby, Cargo Helicopters, PEO Aviation
- Robert F. Golden, Tactical Radio Communications Systems, PEO Command, Control and Communications Tactical (C3T)
- Col. Camille Nichols, PM Guardian, Joint PEO Chemical and Biological Defense

Product Manager of the Year

Lt. Col. Michael Van Rassen, PM Air Missile Defense Command and Control Systems,
PEO C3T

Army Acquisition Excellence Awards*Equipping and Sustaining our Soldiers Individual Award*

Gloria M. Martinez, Gulf Region Central District, Pacific Ocean Division, U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers

Equipping and Sustaining our Soldiers Team Award

The following three teams were selected for their contributions for defeating improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and developing counteractive measures for repelling IED attacks.

- U.S. Army Special Operations Command Team
- Electronics Counter Measure Device Team from PEO Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors
- IED Counter Measure Equipment Team, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

Information Enabled Army Individual Award

Maj. Michael Devine, PEO Enterprise Information Systems (EIS)

Information Enabled Army Team Award

Product Manager Joint-Automatic Identification Technology Team, PEO EIS

Transforming the Way We Do Business Individual Award

Sharon H. Butler, Huntsville Center, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Transforming the Way We Do Business Team Award

Regional Contracting Office, Hawaii, ACA