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DUGWAY TEST CENTER STREAMLINES PURCHASING PROCESS

By Bonnie A. Robinson
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At Dugway's West Desert Test Center, dozens of business processes take place every day. Each time the same steps are used to generate a report. But an inefficient process makes for missed deadlines, stressed employees and a waste of critical time lost on labor intensive documentation.

A buying procedure for a major test and training range like Dugway can easily get clogged in a complex system that is not easily understood. "The purchasing process is very complex and the documents, approvals, and processes vary depending on the type of item, the type of funding and the amount of funding," said Paul Davis, chief of the Technology

Management Branch. Fixing the complex purchase process was exactly the kind of challenge Teri Street, a project management specialist, was ready to take on and solve. She began, earlier this year, searching for ways to improve the test center's purchasing



process. "I was looking to reduce the end user (scientists, engineers, and test directors) man hours spent on

procurement packages, improve the overall procurement process, and speed up the execution time frame," Street said. Street decided there could be no real solution without a complete analysis of each step in the process.

She quickly narrowed the problem once she became aware of a particular facet that was not only bottlenecking the process to a crawl, but occasionally,

brought the system to a dead stop. Often it was something minor like a misplaced document. At other times it appeared to be a major glitch in the tracking system. What she then discovered was that the end users at Dugway were swamped.

She also found that if the repetitive, time consuming procurement documents and duties that end users were struggling with could be transferred to a small corps of dedicated procurement specialists, the process would work better for everyone. End users would now have more of their valuable time available to focus on the test mission. "Teri developed her initiative, planned and briefed the West Desert Test Center leadership for approval. Once given the

◆ Purchasing Process. Page 2

COMMAND PERSPECTIVE

By Kenneth S. Gritton Ph.D
Technical Director, West Desert Test Center

Our Flag - A Symbol of Unity

The flag of the United States is composed of thirteen alternating red and white stripes symbolizing the thirteen British colonies that united in the bond of a new democratic republic 240 years ago. The flag's blue rectangle bears fifty small, white, five-pointed stars to represent the 50 United States that collectively share the bonds and responsibilities outlined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

Within our country, in our states, cities, towns, our citizens all have different perspectives of what living in a democratic republic means. Many differences of opinion are voiced, and/or demonstrated every day in many ways; most expressions are peaceful, some expressions are contentious, but all opinions and viewpoints are given the right of expression; a right

guaranteed by the founding documents and laws of our nation, and symbolized by the flag we fly.

The flag is a unifying symbol that we look to when differences and concerns separate us. This symbol is proudly and reverently displayed from homes, schools, business and public

buildings by millions of Americans every day, and our flag symbolizes our unity, in spite of our differences. Our flag represents 240 years of history; a history that has included strong and sometimes violent differences, but a history, too, of

unification. The 1945 photograph of soldiers raising the US flag atop Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, stirs deep feelings of unity and national pride. During the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key was a prisoner, detained aboard a British ship in Baltimore harbor on the night of Sep. 13-14, 1814. Key observed the Battle of Baltimore. At dawn, when

he saw that the flag continued to wave above the assailed fortress, he wrote words that foster feelings of unity and pride when we sing, "Oh, say can you see..." The more recent photo of firefighters raising the flag at Ground Zero on September 11, 2001,

"The flag of the United States has not been created by rhetorical sentences in declarations of independence and in bills of rights. It has been created by the experience of a great people, and nothing is written upon it that has not been written by their life. It is the embodiment, not of a sentiment, but of a history."
President Woodrow Wilson



brings out those same feelings of unity and pride, even under the most trying of circumstances.

In times when cynics and critics might seek to divide us as a nation, we can all turn with pride, reverence and determination to our unifying symbol. We can remember our history, our national heritage, and how even in the most-trying of times, our flag has reminded us of our unity, in spite of our differences. The flag is our unifying symbol. Let's fly it and proclaim our national pride and our unity.

PURCHASING PROCESS...

Continued from Page 1.

green light, she implemented her plan," Davis said.

Her next step was to standardize procedures to make it as easy as possible for the specialists who would be asked to track the progress of the approval document. To do this, Street formulated procedures taking the standardized documents and preparing flow charts and check lists in easy to understand language to assist the new specialists in streamlining the process. "This sounds like a no-brainer, but with

the different compartmentalized efforts, it had not been put into a comprehensive, workable process. Teri

templates and supporting information in a central online location in an easy-to-understand instruction packet.

Street is delighted with her team of specialists.

"They have taken on a huge undertaking, which is very demanding," she said, "I am extremely proud of how far they have come and how much they have accomplished."

took the initiative to make that happen," Davis added.

To make the changes more manageable, Street posted all the

Finally, she gathered a small group of procurement specialists whom she trained to work with the end users. They were encouraged to be an active

support team, talk and work closely together. The goal was to reduce the workload for the end users allowing them to focus on their day-to-day duties and testing.

Street noticed that the market research improved rapidly. She was not surprised when her methods reduced the number of hours spent on packages, which she chalked up to the confidence the end users had in the specialists and the process she had implemented.



Dugway Celebrates 2016 Hispanic Heritage Month

By Bonnie A. Robinson
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Spc. Sebastian Olvera serves as Public Health Specialist for U. S. Army Dugway Health Clinic. He is responsible for conducting preemptive medicine inventories, inspections and surveys. He is also responsible to ensure sanitary conditions are maintained in food storage and preparation, and that industrial hygiene is well maintained at U.S. Army Dugway Proving Ground, Utah.

Olvera is a Hispanic American, born in Toluca, Mexico, a small town on the outskirts of Mexico City. Growing up in Mexico gave him the opportunity to live close to an extended family rich in the culture of a nation passionately proud of its history.

He has easy confidence in the way he moves, raises a hand to greet one with a handshake, and a bright, welcoming smile that is animated with the vitality of youth. His instant easy-going friendship is relaxed and contagious. He is a natural storyteller.

"In Mexico, where I grew up, it was a place that most people might call poor. But for me, it was an absolutely perfect place. I loved having my aunts, uncles and cousins near. There was always someone nearby to share an adventure or to just hang out with and have fun," he said. "I love every bit of it, still."

As he grew older, Olvera's father left for the United States in search for better job opportunities to benefit his family. He worked long hours in the tree business. After a time, although it was hard for the family to leave their beloved Mexico, his family joined him in Painesville, Ohio. For Olvera it meant meeting new friends and

learning new customs.

As he learned more about his new community, he became an eager learner and new opportunities seem to appear every time he turned a corner. "I especially loved high school, I can easily say it was the best time of my life," he said.

To help with his school expenses, he

After high school, he began to look for opportunities that would further his education. "That's when the Army really caught my eye. I felt it was the best way to help me secure my future."

Becoming a Soldier also helped Olvera fulfill a deep commitment he felt to assist his family. It's not easy to miss the pride and satisfaction in his

"I am proud to be a Soldier. I love working at the clinic. I love learning new duties and gaining more experience. I enjoy serving in this community and the benefits that help my family to move forward," he said avidly.

Olvera is quick to credit Master Sgt. Russell Kruse, the Non-commissioned officer in charge of the Health Clinic team, as paving the way for its Soldiers to work well together.

"Master Sgt. Kruse makes it simple for us to get to know and support one another," Olvera adds in an easy declaration of a man who trusts his leader.

For Hispanic Heritage Month, Kruse held an observance with a casual dinner and a movie at the golf shack on post. For Olvera, it was an effortless way to become more familiar with his team members. Each member must work collectively to ensure the best possible service is provided to the Dugway community. This pride is noticeable in all the clinic Soldiers.

"I like that I can share my background. I am proud of my Mexican heritage, my culture, my parents, grandparents and my extended family."

Olvera has recently enrolled in college. This fall, he will begin to pursue courses with the hope of becoming a veterinarian, a dream that was cultivated in his grandmother's garden as a boy.

"I like the way the Army makes me feel about myself. I feel proud as a Hispanic American, proud to be a Soldier. I feel confident to move forward with my goals."



Spc. Sebastian Olvera, a Public Health Specialist with U.S. Army Dugway Health Clinic shares his experiences as a Soldier in the Army and talks openly about how his service has enriched his knowledge, skills and educational opportunities and provides a way to honor his heritage and commitment to his family as a Hispanic American. Photo By Bonnie A. Robinson, Dugway Public Affairs.

worked with his Uncle Salbino in a family-based business, "basically a taco shop," Olvera admits, "An incredibly good taco shop."

The shop gave his family a foundation, added value to the community and made it easier for his family get to know their neighbors and build new friendships.

"Eventually, the neighborhood began to feel like an extended family, even for my mother who had found leaving Mexico so difficult," he said.

expression, his head high, his voice warmed by emotion as he talks about contributing to the family finances.

"Joining the Army helped me with a steady pay check. I was able to send money home to assist with my families' expenses. It makes me feel good to honor them this way. I love my family, they will always come first."

Olvera now has a second heritage, one he whole-heartily acknowledges with pride as a member of America's Armed Forces.

5K



10K

20K

30K

50K

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Damon Nicholson

DPG Employee of the 3rd Quarter

David Rhyne
Duane Shields

Army Test and
Evaluation Command's
Civilian Employee of
the Year
Richard Holden

FIREFIGHTERS HONE THEIR SKILLS AT 3RD ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE



By Bonnie A. Robinson
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All photos By Bonnie A. Robinson, Dugway Public Affairs.

The Dugway Emergency Services hosted a Firefighter Challenge, Oct. 12, at the Shocklee Fitness Center in English Village. Six teams composed of four members each participated from the Dugway Fire Department, Tooele Army Depot Fire Department and active-duty members from Dugway Law Enforcement.

The challenge included five critical skills that firefighters must have to ensure they can safely rescue victims and put out a fire. "First was a two-story tower climb in the stairwell of the fitness center in which team members carried a 35-pound hose on their shoulders, then hoisted two 40-pound round weights from the fitness center floor to its circular running track more than 40 feet above," said Kevin Russell, a deputy fire chief at Dugway.

The second obstacle was outside the center, a Keiser Sled. The sled is a steel I-beam structure then simulates a forcible entry and tests a fire

fighters ability to master axes and sledgehammers. The team member straddles the sides of the sled and strikes the moveable center with a 9-lb. dead-blow hammer.

A running obstacle course with a series of orange traffic cones was followed by a hose advance to test the fire fighters stamina and their precision in extinguishing a fire. The final test was a victim rescue in which a 200-pound mannequin was dragged approximately fifty feet.

Two relay efforts were combined to reach each team's final scores. The top two teams received a certificate. Dugway's Law Enforcement team came in at 2.63 minutes with the Dugway Fire Department's Match Strikers in a close second with 2.85 minutes.

Fire Captain of the Tooele Army Depot Fire Department, Russ Feola, nicely summed up their participation in the event, "We are all here to support our brother fire fighters."



Currently playing on the Dugway YouTube Channel

- DPG Hispanic Heritage Month
- 2016 Capabilities Video
- USAG Dugway Change of Leadership Ceremony
- S/K Challenge

www.youtube.com/channel/UCPjFIEBY7j7ay6m7FouadqQ



AFAP Conference Army Family Action Plan

AFAP is the voice of the Dugway community and is open to all who wish to attend.

Let your voice be heard!

27 October 2016

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

MWR Community Center

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 West Desert Staff Meeting - 0800 Ditto Story Time & Crafts 1000 - Library	6	7 Fall trap Shoot Event - 1800 Wendover Trip	8 Tooele County Domestic Violence Awareness Vigil
9	10 Columbus Day	11 ATEC Safety Stand-down Garrison Staff Meeting - 0800 - Rm 1202	12 ATEC Safety Stand-down Command Staff Meeting - 0830 English	13 ATEC Workforce Meeting - 1600 Post Theater Dugway Firefighter Challenge - 1900 Shocklee FC	14	15
16	17	18	19 West Desert Staff Meeting - 0800 Ditto Story Time & Crafts 1000 - Library	20	21 Domestic Violence Awareness Luncheon	22 Dugway Trail and Ultra Run
23/30	24/31 Story Time & Crafts 1000 - Library	25 Garrison Staff Meeting - 0800 - Rm 1202	26 USAG Dugway Town Hall Meeting - 1530-1700 ESC Meeting - 0800 Ditto	27 AFAP Conference Blood Drive - Shocklee FC Mexican Night - Community Club	28	29 Halloween Trunk or Treat Festival - Bowling Center

THE DISPATCH

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EMPOWERING THE NATION'S DEFENDERS

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October is
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

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