



# DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

THE NATION'S COMBAT LOGISTICS SUPPORT AGENCY



## Product Test Center Analytical Lab Modernization

Jamie Hieber  
Manager  
November 28, 2018





# Product Test Center Analytical



- The Product Test Center Analytical was realigned to DLA Troop Support on October 1, 2017
- Most know us as a textile testing laboratory. We are that and more. In 2019 we will hit our centennial as a physical testing laboratory for the military.
- In our 100 year history we have tested Clothing, Textiles, Equipage, Leather, Paper, Rubber, Metals, Plastics, and Wood.
- Along with our sister labs in Columbus who test for mechanical and electrical conformance we support the warfighter through conformance testing, guaranteeing performance when needed.
- We maintain the capabilities to provide testing results and technical support that is accurate, timely, and completed in a cost effective manner

**Support the Warfighter Through Conformance Testing**





# Product Test Center Analytical



**ANALYZE  
ASSESS  
AUTHENTICATE**

---

**THE DLA TROOP SUPPORT  
ANALYTICAL PRODUCT TEST CENTER**



# Who We Really Are







# Time To Reassess



- After 100 years it becomes time to take stock, reassess, sustain what we excel at, and determine what we can improve.
- Our realignment with Troop Support marks a perfect opportunity to find our path to the future of warfighter support.
- **Consolidate Infrastructure**: Increased infrastructure improvement including safety, forward focus on equipment to support sustainability for all supply chains, service customers, and Whole of Government. Advanced fabrication equipment (3-D printer) to enable agile project management, and prepare for proficiency and test capabilities for additive manufacturing.
- **Streamline Processes**: Upgrade to Enterprise Laboratory Information Management System to allow multiple access databases to contain and control our workflow, pricing, calibration, inventory, metrics, and future capabilities unknown at this time. Since this is a joint venture with other DLA Labs (Energy, PTC-M, PTC-E) the benefits allow standardization across DoD, faster access to information to provide quality/operational support, reduction in cost to maintain, develop, and sustain numerous systems within DoD.
- **Strengthen Workforce**: Develop skills and capabilities of PTC associates through unique training, participation in professional societies to drive DoD testing for sustainability, and CPI projects to determine correct end strength for FTEs. Attain and manage ISO 9001-2015 certification.
- **End State**: Establish and maintain the PTC Analytical as a state of the art testing facility, for internal, external and industry partners.

**Continuing To Meeting Customer Expectations Is Our Goal**



# Consolidate Infrastructure



- Since our 1998 move from South Philadelphia to the Northeast, many things have changed. Technology has updated.
- We are striving to keep abreast and remain cutting edge.
- Since 2014 we have installed multiple conditioning testing rooms, maintaining conditions for textiles and leather/paper.
- In unconditioned parts of the PTC, we have stand alone chambers. This allows us to adhere to conditioning requirements throughout the lab.
- In 2019 all of the PTC's fume hoods will be replaced, this allows us to provide a safe working environment for all, and meet all current OSHA requirements.
- We are forward focused on improving all internal systems and conditions to provide a continued safe functional work space.







# Streamline Processes



- New testing equipment allows the PTC to be ready to test sustainment items as soon as they transition to DLA
- Strategic engagements with our service partners prepare us for the future so that planning for new equipment purchases is methodical and that financial stewardship of tax paper money is always in the forefront of any purchase.
- New work practices need new systems.
- DLA MUST ( Military Unique Sustainment Technology) is working with the PTC Analytical to upgrade how suppliers can use a SPOE for contractual testing and test reporting notification. This includes work from TEXTBASE, and TEXSPECS (see our breakout session for more information on this initiative)





# Streamline Processes



- Initiatives in streamlining and consolidating our work databases have been picked up by the entire enterprise.
- A LIMS(Laboratory Management Information System) will allow us and other DLA Labs to manage workflow with greater efficacy
- The new system will allow our lab personnel to effectively manage samples and associated data with sampling. Our lab will be able to automate workflows, integrate instruments within tablets and PCs, and manage samples and associated information.
- Additionally, this will allow us produce reliable results more quickly and can track data from sequencing runs over time and across experiments to improve efficiency.
- We will provide workflow functionality with process and task management
- Provide reporting capabilities associated with data mining, metrics, and workload reporting.
- Have the ability to receive external test reports with images
- Provide a method of evaluating and adjusting the precision and accuracy of measurement equipment.
- Instrument calibration will eliminate or reduce bias in an instrument's readings over a range for all continuous values.
- Integration of electronic notebooks via Tablet PC and interface with LIMS
- Provide the ability to access Standards and Specifications various specialties including Ability to view AATCC, ASTM, NFPA, ISO Test Methods





# Strengthen Workforce



- New equipment means nothing if we don't train our associates on correct procedures and test methods.
- Unique training requirements, workshops, symposiums, and extension courses mean our lab specialists are always prepared to support the DLA mission.
- The Troop Support CPI office is working with us to update older work initiatives to keep us at peak efficiency.





# Did You Ever Wonder What It Takes?



To Work as a Color Scientist at DLA you need to meet multiple conditions:

- A Degree in Chemistry (any type, were not picky), or Textile Technology
- Superior Color Vision (20 or below on the Farnsworth Munsell 100 Hue Color Test)
- Maintain that Vision- tested every 6 months
- Train for a year with the Senior Color Scientist

## HOW GOOD IS YOUR VISION?

Only one of these color bars is arranged out of order.  
Would you be able to rearrange it in the correct order -- in under three minutes?







# New In Shade!



- Shade Transition for New Items
- New process allows for items to be transitioned to the PTC with greater confidence.
- More communication with our service customers allows for reduced failure rate, and faster turn time
- Failure rate is down to 10% in FY 18 as opposed to 20% or higher in past 5 years.
- We will explore more in depth at our break out session.
- Instrumental Shade Pilot MUST
- Initial pilot program shows potential for increased testing
- Some equipment incompatible with QTX files
- PTC lab in possession of Datacolor equipment to test theories
- We will explore more in depth at our break out session.



# Supporting the Warfighter



## WARFIGHTER SUPPORT





# Contact Information



Jamie Hieber

Manager

DLA Product Test Center Analytical

Troop Support

215-737-3241

DSN 444-3241

[Jamie.hieber@dla.mil](mailto:Jamie.hieber@dla.mil)



For instrumental measurements on standards and tolerances please visit:

<http://www.dla.mil/TroopSupport/ProductTestCenter/ShadeEvaluation.aspx>

We value your feedback:

<https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=140661&s=590&dep=DoD&card=1>



