

Army Presents Acquisition Commander and Project and Product Manager of the Year Awards

Meg Williams (Photos by SPC Adam R. Mancini, Army Visual Information Division)

Before the Acquisition Commander and Project and Product Manager of the Year winners were announced all nominees were asked to stand and be recognized. These outstanding representatives of the Army Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Workforce research, manage, develop, test, evaluate, contract, field and sustain our warfighting systems to ensure that our soldiers have the materiel they need to fight with greater lethality, survivability and sustainability – regardless of where the battlefield or mission takes them.

The Honorable Claude M. Bolton Jr., the Army Acquisition Executive and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASAALT), and LTG John S. Caldwell Jr., Military Deputy to the ASAALT, presented the annual Acquisition Commander and Project and Product Manager of the Year Awards at the 2003 Army Acquisition Corps Ball, Oct. 5, 2003, at the Grand Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA.



Project Manager of the Year COL David Ogg

“It is a testament to both the Army and Acquisition Corps that so many

excellent people are nominated and recognized each year for remarkable service above and beyond the call of duty,” remarked Bolton. “These award winners have been selected from an elite group of nominees. They faced challenges and complexities in a year characterized by change, deployments, unit rotations and high operations tempo.”

Project Manager of the Year

The Project Manager of the Year Award at the Colonel/GS-15 level was presented to COL David Ogg from the Interim Brigade Combat Team, Program Executive Office (PEO) Ground Combat Systems. The Interim Brigade Combat Team plans, manages and directs the development, testing, production, fielding and sustainment of a full range of systems, including 10 variants of the Stryker Family of Vehicles. Despite the complexity and requirement to meet tighter deadlines than in other more traditional Army Acquisition programs, Ogg’s program exceeded a 90-percent

Operational Readiness Rate, delivering products on time and meeting or exceeding Soldier requirements.

“I’d like to thank my boss, MG(P) Joseph Yakovac Jr. for nominating me,” Ogg said. “There are 150 military and civilian people working at Warren, MI; Fort Lewis, WA; Washington, DC; and General Dynamics and it’s my honor to accept this award on their behalf.”



Product Manager of the Year LTC Dave Lockhart

Product Manager of the Year

The Product Manager of the Year Award at the Lieutenant Colonel/GS-14 level was presented to LTC Dave Lockhart, Product Manager for Joint Tactical Radio Communications Systems (JTRS) Army – Ground and Air, from PEO Command, Control and Communications-Tactical. Lockhart and his team were able to identify and effectively minimize contractor cost and schedule overruns via aggressive program reviews and relentless application of earned-value management. He spearheaded streamlined, innovative measures that enabled the



Army Acquisition Executive Claude M. Bolton Jr. presents the Acquisition Commander of the Year Award to COL Mary Brown along with LTG John S. Caldwell Jr.

JTRS team to maintain objective schedule momentum and deliver exceptional results for five JTRS clusters and responsibility for fielding more than 100,000 systems with a \$23 billion budget.

“On behalf of myself and my team, we’ve worked extraordinarily hard to get the JTRS radio out and tested and I thank you for this award,” said Lockhart.

Acquisition Commander of the Year — Colonel

The Acquisition Commander of the Year at the Colonel/GS-15 level was presented to COL Mary Brown from the Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Test Center. As the Aberdeen Test Center Commander, Brown manages 60-plus acres of test ranges and 73 major

test facilities. She also oversees operations involving nearly 1,600 military, civilian and contractor personnel and is responsible for developmental testing of combat and combat support systems; ammunition, including small rockets and missiles; and Navy ship structures. Brown’s organization is committed to ensuring that Soldiers receive the safest and best equipment available.

“I would like to recognize my bosses for their unwavering support,” said Brown. “This is a team award — it took a team effort to win this. I represent more than 150 civilians and officers who work hard every day and who know how much their work means to others.”

Acquisition Commander of the Year — Lieutenant Colonel

The Acquisition Commander of the Year Award at the Lieutenant Colonel/GS-14 level was presented to LTC Jack Cunnane, U.S. Army Contracting Agency, Southern Region. Cunnane’s command was directly responsible to the U.S. Army III Corps for missions and quality of life support at Fort Hood, TX, and in supporting force projection and rapid deployment contingency operations. His support enabled III



Acquisition Commander of the Year LTC Jack Cunnane

Corps to complete 100 percent of its mission requirements. Cunnane further demonstrated his dedication by volunteering to serve in Iraq to establish the joint contracting element that supported ongoing warfighter operations in theater.

“This award would not be possible if not for the civilians and soldiers at the Army Contracting Agency,” Cunnane said. “There’s truly nothing they wouldn’t do for the Army.”

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Natick Integrated Materiel Management Center's Fire Response Team

Daniel Galarza

On Dec. 18, 2002, at approximately 8 p.m., molten red flames engulfed a major military parachute storage, packing and maintenance facility in Vicenza, Italy. The facility contained thousands of personnel and

reserve parachute systems. The cause of the blaze was linked to faulty electrical wiring. The extreme heat from the fire caused ceiling light fixtures and electrical conduits to melt. On Dec. 27, 2002, DOD response team personnel

were called away from their holiday activities and flown to Vicenza, Italy. The team consisted of aerial delivery representatives from the Natick Soldier Center (NSC) and Integrated Materiel Management Center (IMMC), Natick, MA.