

Excellence in Business Awards Large Employer of the Year Award Nominee Bio

Dover Air Force Base



Photo Credit SrA Zachary Cacia

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Describe the business: Active/Reserve Air Force Base

Mission/Philosophy: Foster a *Community* that Develops *Innovative Airmen* to Deliver Excellence in *Trusted Global Mobility*

Primary good or service provided: Worldwide Rapid Global Mobility by utilizing 18 C-5M's and 13 C-17's

Number of years in business: Celebrating 75 Years as an air base

How did your business start? In 1941, land was acquired by the city to develop a civilian airfield. In December of 1941, the US Government leased the airfield as we entered World War II. In April of 1943, we became known as Dover Army Air Base. Dover Air Force Base has transitioned from the WW II era of battling German U-Boats with the O-47 aircraft to training fighter pilots to providing relief with our current Air Mobility Command mission of delivering worldwide Rapid Global Mobility.

Number of employees:

Full-time: 4,306

Part-time: 1,764

Describe the challenges facing your business: The ever-changing environment of our military.

Describe solutions developed to address those challenges: Continue to foster an environment that our airmen can continue to innovate and develop better processes.

Describe a creative, imaginative or innovative process you have developed that has helped your business grow:

Clean Fleet: This initiative instituted reusable containers for non-expendable items on our aircraft fleet. May seem simple, but this innovation reduced our inventory time of these items by nearly 200 man hours a year and saved \$3,060.

Wheel and Tire Flow: This process expedited the more than 500 tires that our maintainers change and clean annually. This innovation increased the wheel and tire rack capacity by 60% and lowered wash rack time by 20%.

Aircraft Sheet Metal Rework: This initiative instituted an error-proofing technique for support equipment that reduced rework incidents by almost one third and cut material cost by approximately \$8,000 a year.

What are the goals for your business in the next three to five years? Continue to foster our community and develop our airmen to take delivering excellence to new heights.

What distinguishes your business from the others? Dover Air Force Base benefits from its many partnerships, and these partnerships really set us apart from others. Not only are we home of the Air Force's #1 base and AMC's best installation two times, but we also foster long-lasting partnerships with our Reserve Wing as well as 18 mission partners. As part of these mission partners, Dover hosts the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Office (AFMAO), Joint Personnel Effects Depot (JPED), and Air Force Medical Examiner System (AFMES), key players in our no fail mission that honors the heroes who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Dover AFB also houses the Department of Defense's largest Aerial Port. More than 3,600 aircraft are handled annually, hauling 60,000 tons of cargo and more than 8,300 passengers. Last, Dover AFB's community really distinguishes us and sets us apart. The community's recent Abilene Trophy win is evident that we have very close ties to our community. Through our initiatives, the community and the base have built a strong relationship that will endure for many years to come.

What contributions have you made in the community?

Serving on boards/committees: Members serve on a variety of boards and committees in the community from school boards and PTOs to churches and other non-profit organizations. Commander is honorary member of the CDCC Board, other leadership sit on various other boards and committees.

Serving as a volunteer: Dover AFB Airmen are constantly volunteering in the community. Some of the volunteer opportunities include, the Schwartz Center for the Arts, STEM Robotics competitions, Read Across America, Wreaths Across America, NASCAR, Heritage, History and Hops, OktDoverFest, PHASE mentoring, rotary clubs, Special Olympics, and Dover Days.

Providing in-kind services: Dover AFB supports events in the community by donating logistical support to NASCAR, Dover Days, Special Olympics Delaware, and the Delaware State Fair.