

2019 Ammunition Hall of Fame Inductee

MR. GREGORY ZELNIO



Mr. Gregory Zelnio has distinguished himself through exceptional civilian service throughout his 33-year career with the government. He served at the senior leadership level for the past twelve years within the Joint Munitions Command (JMC). In his final position, he served as the Deputy to the Munitions and Logistics Readiness Center and was a key partner with Commanders, senior leaders, higher headquarters and other service representatives. The MLRC executes logistics sustainment, readiness and acquisition support for conventional munitions in support of the U.S. military services, allies and friendly nations.

He supported JMCs restructure and led efforts to grow the logistics mission globally. He was the proponent of the logistics industrial base strategic plan to support long term right sizing strategies. Mr. Zelnio's ability to collaborate and work transformational and strategic issues were exceptional.

Prior to that assignment, he led the directorate that served as the command's primary entry point for all ammunition logistics supply chain requirements, as well as executing/managing the Single Manager for Conventional Ammunition (SMCA) logistics mission for all conventional ammunition. This includes supply, storage and storage improvement, inventory and accountability, demilitarization, Ammunition Peculiar Equipment (APE) management, Centralized Ammunition Management (CAM), transportation/traffic management, and associated Automatic Identification Technology (AIT). Mr. Zelnio's responsibilities include the accountability and storage of over \$61B of munitions and distribution of containers for training and sustainment. He oversaw the delivery of ammunition in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom since November 2002.

Under his direction, they integrated a number of Automated Information Systems at our headquarters through data transfer links, and leveraged numerous Automatic Identification Technology strategies at the depots and ammunition supply points to streamline business process models, modernize system architectures, and make better use of available resources in managing the Class V (ammunition).

He was an avid spokesman and champion for additional Procurement of Ammunition, Army funds to obtain demilitarization dollars. His concern focused on the large amount of demilitarization stocks. He established a Demil Board of Directors with internal and external members. Various sub-groups exist to rank and analyze processes/projects.

Through the Demilitarization and Ammunition Peculiar Equipment Management (APE) Division, he successfully led demilitarization of untagged plastic explosive items. The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 (The Act) necessitated the elimination of these assets.

Mr. Zelnio began his federal career in October 1982 with the U.S. Army Armament, Munitions and Chemical Command (AMCCOM) as a chemical engineer in the Industrial Readiness Directorate. From there, he worked in the Resource Management Directorate as a division chief in the value engineering program and the productivity division. In March of 2003, he became the Director of Quality. His major responsibilities included production quality, ammunition surveillance, Ammunition Stockpile Reliability program and the ammunition malfunction program. His organization provided ammo quality guidance worldwide through his Surveillance Division along with providing overall quality guidance to the JMC facilities. His key accomplishments included leading the organization in obtaining ISO 9001-2008 registration; the first within the HQs, Joint Munitions Command. This achievement ensured outstanding processes were in place to support the Ordnance Corp and the Warfighter. His organization implemented quality best practices throughout AMC. He chaired/supported multiple quality forums encouraging installations best practice sharing and well as provides the foundation for quality process education. He expedited Ammunition Stockpile Reliability Program testing to support critical requirements.

Mr. Zelnio instituted and fostered dialogue and partnerships between requirement's generators, program sponsors, executors and users, forging commitments for process discipline, output management, trend analysis, and vigilant pursuit of continuous improvement. Mr. Zelnio was a mentor to junior leaders and an advisor to senior leaders. He has a keen ability to develop personnel and serves as a role model for others. He successfully “built the bench” of quality interns and served as the career program manager for the CP-16, Engineers and Scientists (non-construction).