



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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CO-OP Student wins command award

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MAXWELL AFB, GUNTER ANNEX, Ala – Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command

selected Traci Smith as a winner of the Air Force Materiel Command Communication and Information Award, naming her Civilian Assistant of the Year.

Alabama State University senior Traci Smith, a CO-OP student at the Standard Systems Group's Defense Messaging System Program Management Office, is described as being extremely responsible and self-motivated, consistently performing at levels superior to her grade and her peers. She aggressively pursued Directory Information Tree training and learned new tasks ahead of schedule. "If I give her something to do, she doesn't let go until it's done," said Gary Lotti, Chief, Sustainment Division and Traci's supervisor. "She's just awesome."

Traci made immediate contributions to the DMS version 3.0 training plan and implementation schedule and also volunteered to serve on the PMO 2nd tier DMS and Certificate Authority Workstation help desk. The evaluation form she developed for the DMS 3.0 Transitional Training Course increased trainee participation, promoted teamwork, enhanced course credibility, and made immediate changes to the course curriculum by expanding training coverage.

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"Man, she just took off and went," said Lotti regarding Traci's drive in the DMS 3.0 project. Expediently responding to user concerns (resolving 85 percent with no supervision) and superbly coordinating equipment and material acquisitions and DMS site visits, Traci quickly became a seasoned veteran.

The young communications and information technology technician aided the successful training of 14 million DMS users, system administrators, and workgroup managers. She also flawlessly maintained the DMS-AF Global E-mail Directory Document, meticulously validating over 1.2 million pages and 70 million names published in the listing.

Traci was the key contributor to the success of the 2002 DMS-AF Users Conference, providing in-garrison call-in support. She researched answers to frequently asked questions and quickly relayed the information back to briefers. Her facilitation of smooth information flow maximized participation for over 600 attendees.

Lotti says that the best thing about Traci is her tenacity. She "never says no, never gets upset." Traci Smith sets the example by rapidly acquiring DMS knowledge and continuing to accept greater challenges, resulting in further contributions to Air Force communications and information.

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