

VIRTUAL PROMOTION

By DJ Montoya



Photo by DJ Montoya

PETERSON Air Force Base, Colo. – 1st Space Battalion has taken the 21st Century approach of conducting a traditional promotion board via video teleconferencing (VTC.) Seen here is a VTC promotion board, conducted for the first time in the newly outfitted 1st Space Battalion Conference Room at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command / Army Forces Strategic Command Operations building on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., during the afternoon of Oct. 24. SSG Stephanie Weber of the battalion brought up on a high definition screen candidates SPC Michael Moore and SPC Jerry Wardlaw, two Joint Tactical Ground Station operators from Headquarters, D Detachment, 1st Space Company, Misawa Air Force Base, Japan. The two Soldiers faced tough questions from board members seen at the table (left to right) SFC Erik Johnson, SGM William Baker and SFC Dustin Swinney.

“Because the battalion is globally dispersed, VTC is the perfect venue to conduct NCO and Soldier of the Quarter Boards too,” said 1st Space Battalion CSM James Ross.

“This technology opens up the opportunity to compete for our Soldiers who are stationed in Germany, Korea, Japan, and CENTCOM.”

Ross also stated that the battalion has been conducting this type of promotion board in other conference rooms throughout the building utilizing VTC technology with other outlying locations worldwide for the past eight to ten months.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT PRIORITY FOR 53RD SIGNAL BATTALION

By Sharon L. Hartman

Air Force Lt. Col. Peter J. Flores, Deputy Chief, Combat Operations Division, JFCC-Space, speaks at the 53rd Signal Battalion Operations Conference, which was conducted at the ITT and ARINC facilities, and the Global SATCOM Support Center, Oct. 15-21. Photo by DJ Montoya



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COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Key players and policy makers from the Satellite Communications community were invited to the 53rd Signal Battalion’s annual Operations Conference Oct. 15-21. The event, conducted at the ITT and ARINC facilities and the Global SATCOM Support Center, allowed attendees to discuss and review current policies, as well as look at the road map for the upcoming Wideband Global Satellite activations.

According to SFC Robert Lewis, 53rd Signal Battalion Operations Noncommissioned Officer and facilitator for the conference, the occasion was an opportunity to focus on improving the battalion’s customer support to the SATCOM community.