



L to R: Michael Brown, Al Sanchez, Clarence Tidwell, Charles Talley

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COLSA Corporation Receives its Second James S. Cogswell Outstanding Industrial Security Achievement Award

COLSA Corporation's president, Clarence A. Tidwell, was officially presented the prestigious Cogswell Award today at the COLSA corporate headquarters in Cummings Research Park. Al Sanchez, the Defense Security Service (DSS) Regional Director, Dallas, Texas, along with Michael Brown, Huntsville's DSS Field Chief, presented the award to Tidwell and COLSA's Security Manager, Charles J. Talley.

COLSA was notified that they were selected by DSS to receive the 2008 James S. Cogswell Outstanding Industrial Security Achievement Award at the National Classification Management Society annual security-training seminar on June 18 in Mashantucket, CN. Tidwell, Talley, and COLSA's Information Systems Security Manager Cathy Greenhaw were present to accept the award certificate. COLSA's DSS Industrial Security Representative, Elizabeth Bruinsma, was also present for the award ceremony in Connecticut.

The Cogswell award, established in 1966, is named in honor of the late Air Force Col. James S. Cogswell, the first chief of industrial security within the Department of Defense. Cogswell was responsible for developing the basic principles of the Industrial Security Program, which include an emphasis on the partnership between industry and government to protect classified information. This partnership ultimately ensures the greatest protection for the U.S. war fighter and our nation's classified information. The

Cogswell Award recognizes industrial security excellence.

This year, DSS presented the Cogswell Award to 23 of 12,000 defense contractors that are subject to annual inspection. The award is granted for establishing and maintaining a security program that far exceeds the basic National Industrial Security Program requirements and for providing leadership to other cleared facilities in establishing best practices while maintaining the highest standards for security.

The Cogswell Award selection process is rigorous. A DSS Industrial Security Representative may only nominate facilities that have at a minimum two consecutive superior industrial security review ratings and which show a sustained degree of excellence and innovation in their overall security program management, implementation and oversight. The Cogswell Award is given for outstanding achievement in matters related exclusively to a facility's security program. DSS makes the final selections.

In accepting the award, Tidwell noted that "All of COLSA's Huntsville employees are to be commended and should be proud of this award; security is everyone's job and the security staff could not have achieved this milestone without the support of all COLSA employees."

This is the second time that COLSA has been honored with this prestigious award. COLSA last received the award in 1997.