About the New Jersey TLD Talent Network

To secure and expand its leading role in the global economy, New Jersey must have a world-class workforce that can plan, manage, and implement the international movement of goods. To ensure that there are enough qualified workers to meet this industry’s hiring needs, the Talent Network’s top priorities are to strengthen the education and training of current and future TLD employees, to increase awareness about TLD occupations, and to better connect individuals interested in working in the industry with employers who want to hire new employees. As the founding partner in this initiative, North Jersey Partners has provided funding and guidance for much of the Talent Network’s activities. Funding was also provided by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the New Jersey Department of Education. Additional initial partners include Union County College, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rutgers University, Middlesex County Will, Union County Will, and Newark Will.

Learn more at www.tnltdtn.org.

Background

This career brochure as well as everything that you buy or use every day came into your hands through the work of hundreds of individuals, from the truck driver who delivered it, the warehouse workers who stored and moved the paper, the computer operators who processed the order, to the crane operators who unloaded the containers. The supply chain professionals involved in these activities planned, managed, and delivered the goods in a cost-effective manner. This career brochure as well as everything that you buy or use every day came into your hands through the work of hundreds of individuals, from the truck driver who delivered it, the warehouse workers who stored and moved the paper, the computer operators who processed the order, to the crane operators who unloaded the containers. The supply chain professionals involved in these activities planned, managed, and delivered the goods in a cost-effective manner.

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All of these occupations and many more in the dynamic transportation, logistics, and distribution (TLD) sector connect us to the global economy. New Jersey is located in the heart of one of the largest, most dynamic consumer markets in the world and more than 280,000 individuals are responsible for connecting us all to the global economy through the movement of goods.

Hundreds of millions of tons of freight valued at more than $850 billion annually move into, out of, and across New Jersey by truck, barge, ship, plane, and train. Within 25 years, freight volumes are predicted to grow by more than 65%.

A wide range of companies in a wide range of industries hire TLD employees: from transportation, logistics, and distribution companies to retail and manufacturing companies that ship and store products. As these occupations sometimes deal with operating motor vehicles, working with or transporting hazardous materials, and working with valuable materials, security issues are a concern for those working in TLD. Therefore, background and other security checks may be required prior to employment.

Occupations in TLD generally fall into five separate functional work areas:

- Transportation and Port Operations
- Warehousing and Distribution
- Maintenance
- Supply Chain Management and Logistics
- Corporate Administration (Sales, Marketing, Safety, Purchasing, Information Technology)

In this brochure, each functional work area is also broken down into specific job groups, with sample occupations to illustrate some of the career options available to students and job seekers.

Sources


Data on position compensation, and approximate number of TLD industry employees within each occupation in New Jersey, are from the New Jersey Department of Labor Occupational Employment Statistics for 2008.

Acknowledgments

This brochure was produced by the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Special thanks go to Christina Herzog, who spearheaded the development of the brochure; Robb C. Swellwolff; the editor; and David Ogunsito, the creative director and designer.
Transportation & Port Operations
Cargo ships, airplanes, trains, and trucks all move goods to New Jersey and throughout the state. In New Jersey, the majority of goods transportation is done via light trucks and tractor-trailers. However, time-sensitive or highly valuable cargo arrive and leave the state by air with most of it leaving from Newark Liberty International Airport. Additionally, millions of tons of materials and products move to and from New Jersey via rail and ocean-going vessels. Transportation operators are the lifeline of the TLD industry.

Warehousing & Distribution
Receiving, storing, and distributing goods for delivery to customers have always played a vital role in keeping American commerce moving. Today, these traditional services are being transformed by 21st Century technology as businesses work hard to keep pace with an increasingly competitive global market. Inventory control and efficiency in movement and storage of goods requires utilization of technology such as bar code scanners and computerized inventory tracking systems.

Employees in ports, terminals, or warehouses must have a wide range of skills to ensure that customer orders are filled and delivered correctly, accurately, and efficiently. Worker safety is also a primary concern that is reflected in the job descriptions of all warehousing and distribution occupations.

People who work in warehousing and distribution are primarily responsible for receiving, sorting, labeling, and loading large numbers of products each year. It is a complicated challenge, and failure to keep track of the merchandise passing through can be costly and — if certain items are mislabeled — extremely hazardous.

Maintenance
Transportation, logistics, and distribution involves a large variety of machines — from trucks, rail cars, ships, and airplanes to forklifts, cranes, conveyor belts, and electronics.

Employees who work in maintenance help ensure that the machinery and equipment used to transfer and store high volumes of goods are well maintained and in safe operating condition. Maintenance has become an increasingly challenging occupational area as high-tech, computerized equipment and vehicles require workers with higher-level skill sets. Electronics in transportation is becoming increasingly important to the overall functioning of the TLD system.

Supply Chain Management & Logistics
In a complex, global economy, companies that make and sell products — from shoes and groceries to computers and cars — are increasingly buying materials and supplies from other companies around the world and making sure that the various components of a final product come together on time and within budget. In addition, companies must ensure that their products are moved quickly and cost-effectively across the globe from where they are made to where they are purchased by consumers. Workers in supply chain management and logistics plan and manage all of these activities.

Corporate Administration
Companies in transportation, logistics, and distribution also employ people in a wide variety of corporate administration occupations. Although these occupations appear in most industries, they are important components of the TLD industry, and contribute significantly to the functioning of the system as a whole. Job groups include sales, marketing, and customer service; information technology; and health, safety, and environmental management.
Find the Education and Training You Need to Prepare for a TLD Career

New Jersey Training Sources

This website will allow you to search for the training and education programs that will prepare you for a career in TLD. Learn more at www.njtrainingsources.org

New Jersey’s Colleges

The state’s 19 community colleges offer a wide variety of education and training programs that can prepare people for careers. More information on these colleges, and the programs they offer, can be found at www.njccc.org

An array of educational institutions have been involved in the TLD Talent Network by developing and implementing new education and training programs. These include:

- Union County College
  - www.ucc.edu
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
  - www.njit.edu
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
  - www.rutgers.edu
- Middlesex County College
  - www.middlesexcc.edu
- Passaic County Community College
  - www.pccc.cc.nj.us

Get Help Finding a Job

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development provides myriad resources to help individuals find employment and prepare for careers. Learn more at lwd.dol.state.nj.us

New Jersey’s One-Stop Career Centers, located throughout the state, offer services (free of charge) to help individuals develop the skills they need to succeed in a 21st Century work environment. Staff of the One-Stop Career Centers can assist individuals to obtain employment or the training they need to meet the demands of the state’s employers. Employment counselors can help people explore their career choices, their related interests and abilities, and the occupations that best utilize their current skills. Locations and contact information can be found at lwd.dol.state.nj.us

Learn More About the Industry

A wide variety of employer associations provide more information on TLD occupations and careers. These include:

- American Association of Port Authorities
  - www.aapa-ports.org
- American Trucking Associations
  - www.truckline.com
- Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals
  - www.cscmp.org
- International Facility Management Association
  - www.ifma.org
- Material Handling Industry of America
  - www.mhia.org
- Material Handling Society of New Jersey
  - www.mhsnj.com
- New Jersey Motor Truck Association
  - www.njmta.org
- Warehousing Education and Research Council
  - www.werc.org

Why is TLD Important in New Jersey?

- 422,000 total occupational employment
- 280,000 individuals employed in TLD companies
- 6,470 companies operate in TLD arena
- 12,500 new hires in TLD (2007-2008)
- 57% of employees worked at large firms (500 or more employees)
Trucking

In New Jersey, the majority of goods are moved via highway. More than 50% of the state’s goods are transported by truck, and nearly 75% by truck and rail. High-speed rail has become a significant part of an efficient transportation network that moves people and goods. Since the 1990s, the volume of goods shipped by rail has increased by 80%, and many rail lines move over 42 million tons of goods each year. Rail transport provides the most cost-effective transportation for many rail lines move over 42 million tons of goods each year. Rail transport provides the most cost-effective transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items.

Air

Time-sensitive or highly valuable cargo arrives via air cargo. At Newark Liberty International Airport (NLIA), every 60 seconds, a container is unloaded, and processed by workers using a variety of machines. This cargo gets loaded, unloaded, and processed by workers using a variety of machines. This cargo gets loaded, unloaded, and processed by workers using a variety of machines. This cargo gets loaded, unloaded, and processed by workers using a variety of machines. This cargo gets loaded, unloaded, and processed by workers using a variety of machines. This cargo gets loaded, unloaded, and processed by workers using a variety of machines.

In the past 20 years, New Jersey’s air cargo facilities have grown dramatically. The Newark Liberty International Airport is the busiest airport in the United States for international cargo. It has the highest number of cargo air carriers and flights in the United States. In 2004, nearly 1.5 million tons of cargo was shipped to and from New Jersey through the ports. Over 2,000 cargo aircraft arrive every day. Logisticians help determine the appropriate mode of transportation for any given product. They ensure that a company’s products (whether they are time-sensitive or highly valuable cargo) arrive at their destination on time. Logisticians help determine the appropriate mode of transportation for any given product. They ensure that a company’s products (whether they are time-sensitive or highly valuable cargo) arrive at their destination on time.

Rail

New Jersey’s approximately 1,000 miles of rail lines are connected to the world’s largest rail hub in New York City. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items. Rail transport is the most cost-effective mode of transportation for large quantities of goods and is particularly useful for the movement of heavy or bulky items.