Career options: Logistics and Supply Chain Management

The Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals defines logistics as the “universal thread or (pipeline) that plans and coordinates the delivery of products and services to customers all over the world. Logistics professionals manage and coordinate activities in this global pipeline to ensure an effective and efficient flow of materials and information from the time a need arises until it is satisfied and beyond.

Some of the many activities involved in logistics include: customer service, warehousing, inventory control, transportation, materials handling, forecasting, purchasing and strategic planning.

Logistics managers ensure that the right product, in the right quantity, in the right condition, is delivered to the right customer at the right place, at the right time, at the right cost”.

The logistics industry covers a wide range of industry sectors and jobs. The industry provides transport and services to all industry sectors including mining, fishing, forestry, agriculture, processing, manufacturing, warehousing, retailing, tourism and construction.

Logistics jobs can be found in all sizes of business ranging from small to medium enterprises through to large multi-national and transnational companies.

In Australia, the transport, distribution and logistics industry employs a workforce approaching 400,000 employees.

In addition to knowledge and skills directly related to your program of study, you will also develop a range of other skills (e.g. teamwork, analytical, communication) through academic study, employment, voluntary work, sporting activities and life experience. Recognising the value employers place on these skills is an important factor in your graduate job search.

Vacancies on-line

Australia

- MyCareer logistics, transport & supply chain vacancies
- Seek transport & logistics vacancies
- ImPex Personnel (specialising in international trade & logistics recruitment)
- Australian Defence Force Recruiting
- Australian Public Service recruitment
- Brisbane City Council vacancies
- Byron Employment
Many work opportunities are not advertised. It is common practice for jobseekers to search out these opportunities. When approaching potential employers, conducting research to identify links between your selling points (your skills, experience, interests and qualifications) and an employer’s needs, increases your chances of success. Research will also reduce the number of approaches you need to make, saving you time in the end. Developing and using your personal and professional networks is also a valuable tool in finding these ‘hidden’ opportunities.
• **Australian Chamber of Commerce Korea members**
• **Australia and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan**
• **China: Australia Beijing Chamber of Commerce members**
• **China: Australia Shanghai Chamber of Commerce members**
• **Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce members**
• **Malaysia: Australia Malaysia Business Council members**
• **Thailand: Australia Thailand Chamber of Commerce members**
• **Airports worldwide**
• **Australian Suppliers Directory** Austrade database of companies with export potential across a wide range of industry sectors.
• **Australian Defence Forces**
• **Australian Government departments**
• **Australian minerals industry directory**
• **Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) listed companies**
• **Australian universities**
• **Cruise lines & agents in Australia**
• **Convention & function venues in Australia**
• **Customs brokers & forwarders in Australia**
• **Export Council of Australia member companies**
• **Freight shipping companies in Australia**
• **Logistics consultants in Australia**
• **Port Authorities in Australia**
• **Refrigerated warehouses & transport companies in Australia**
• **Rail industry companies in Australia**
• **Top 2000 Australian company profiles**

**Employment prospects and salaries**

*Grad Jobs and Dollars* provides information on employment rates and median starting salaries by field of study, for Australian university graduates surveyed four months after graduation. Information on occupations Australia-wide, such as the size of the workforce, employment prospects and average weekly earnings is available from *JobOutlook*.

**Professional associations**

Joining a professional association is a great way to meet people in your field, who can assist you to explore your career options and potentially find employment opportunities. These associations exist in every field of employment and hold regular professional development and networking events. Students are welcome to join, and membership and can cost as little as $60 per year.

• **Australasian Production & Inventory Control Society**
• **Australian Institute of Export**
• **Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport**
• **Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply**
• **Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia**
• **Export Council of Australia**
Certified Professional Logician

The launch of the Certified Professional Logician (CPL) programme is scheduled for October 2006. The CPL programme is an Australian certification programme that is jointly offered by The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, The Logistics Association of Australia, and The Supply Chain & Logistics Association of Australia.

The CPL will be able to demonstrate that they have the capability to effectively master the technology and leadership skills required across the broad range of activities that today constitute logistics. The CPL is a new professional certification in logistics that enables workers in this industry to develop themselves more effectively, and assists in defining the logistics profession.

Other career-related links for Logistics students

- Careers in logistics
- Careers in fast-moving consumer goods
- Careers in supply chain management

Sample graduate job advertisements

**Newcrest Mining Limited** is Australia’s leading gold and copper producer, with a track record of discovering and developing our own mines. Employing over 2,000 people, we work together to drive our world-class operations. There isn’t a better place to kick-start your career in the mining industry!

Our Graduate Program gives you the support to make a smooth transition from university life to a professional career. We are committed to attracting, developing and retaining motivated, inspired and talented individuals (like you), who want to be challenged, grow professionally and make their mark in an exciting and innovative organisation.

As a Supply & Logistics Graduate, you will develop all round technical and operational capabilities in the area of Supply & Logistics. Supply & Logistics interacts with all areas within the organisation, so you’ll get to interact with a wide variety of people and learn about all aspects of the business. You will have the exciting opportunity to gain exposure to the development of various Supply & Logistics systems and processes and develop an understanding of Strategic Sourcing Frameworks, Procure to Pay Process and Warehouse & Logistics.

More broadly, you will develop operational skills, such as effective communication to all levels within the organisation, familiarisation of the mining industry, problem solving, time management and prioritising. You’ll develop through formal training, on-the-job experience and tailored support, including graduate workshops and networking events. It’s a great way to gain exposure to some of the best professionals in our field and make valuable contacts.
National Foods is currently looking for Accounting and Finance, Research and Development, Logistics, Engineering, People and Culture, and Sales and Marketing Graduates for 2011.

Graduate – Logistics

• 2 year hands-on graduate program
• Minimum of 3 job rotations, development, mentoring and more!
• Sydney based

National Foods is part of the leading food and beverage company within Australasia – Lion Nathan National Foods, with revenues exceeding $4 billion. We employ more than 5,000 people and proudly manufacture many of Australasia's favourite brands with sites in all states of Australia. Our portfolio of high profile brands includes PURA, Dairy Farmers, Berri, Yoplait, Tasmanian Heritage, King Island and Big M, to name a few. Many of these brands, which cover products in milk, fresh dairy, juice, soy beverages and specialty cheese have been a part of Australian life for over 100 years.

If you're looking to develop a long term career with a company whose vision and ambition match your own, National Foods is the natural choice.

Logistics and Sales & Operational Planning involves combining demand planning with supply planning, and working with our Sales function to ensure we have a fully integrated Sales & Operations Planning process i.e. Marry up the customer sales forecasts with the production plans to ensure we have the right volume of product in the right place, at the right time. Demand Planning captures and interprets customer/consumer demand data and from this communicates operational forecasts both on a short and long term horizon. Supply Planning is the consolidation of demand plans to produce production and material plans ensuring inventory levels are optimised, procurement lead times and processes are supported and supply is closely aligned to demand.

In addition, Logistics involves the delivery of supplying the finished goods to customers and managing transportation, warehousing and third party provider networks to enable us to reach all of our customers in the most timely and cost effective way.

As a Logistics Graduate, you will work in at least one of the following areas:

• Logistics Planning – assisting with supply & demand planning across all product categories, using forecast and statistical data on product demand, creating planning schedules for manufacturing bases, explore root cause analysis on product demand variability linked to service level performance

• Logistics Operations – based at 1-2 different sites, supporting the running of day to day transport and warehousing eg. Transport scheduling, inventory management, supplier management and supervision of warehouse operations and supporting the international logistics operation eg. Freight forwarding, container management and supplier management
• Team Leader role – supporting a logistics operations team, coordinate a team and participate in all people initiatives such as coaching & development and recruitment activities.

We’ll give you every opportunity to reach your full potential through job rotations, targeted development days, on the job coaching, 1:1 mentoring and career development advice. The 2 year program will be based in Sydney and relocation will be provided for the successful graduate (if based in another State).

Here’s what we’re looking for in you: Passion for success and our brands, drive for results, openness to change, problem solving, innovation and thirst for learning. Any work experience you’ve had while at uni will also be viewed favourably.

**Ingal Civil Products** A recently qualified graduate required for a PRODUCTION PLANNING vacancy with a MARKET LEADER IN HIGHWAY SAFETY PRODUCTS.

Are you bright and enthusiastic and keen to commence your career with a market leader?

We are the leading supplier of highway safety products throughout Australia and South East Asia and are extremely successful and well respected in the marketplace. We are a division of Industrial Galvanizers and are therefore members of a growing and dynamic international company that employ over 2000 people across 10 countries.

You will have some practical experience in a manufacturing environment. As this is an entry level position, you will need to have recently completed a business or logistics qualification. You will need to possess excellent attention to detail, organizational skills and an ability to relate with people at all levels of the business.

Your responsibilities will include: utilising the national sales forecasts to determine raw material and labour requirements, generating works orders, short and long term scheduling of production, optimizing raw material availability and inventory levels and quoting of nonstandard product.

**Reckitt Benckiser** is a hugely successful global FMCG company with operations in 60 countries and revenues exceeding AUS$13 billion. We are the name behind many instantly recognised household and health & personal care products, such as Finish, Airwick, Strepsils, Napisan, Mortein, Nurofen, Veet and Dettol. Our world-class people are the creative force driving our market-leading brands, which is why we only employ the best.

Central to everything we do is a uniquely confident, entrepreneurial, can-do culture. It is all about a passionate commitment to understanding consumers, to competing hard, developing and delivering the best products, rewarding achievement and, ultimately, to winning.

If you want to work with the best, we offer real challenge and development within our dynamic Supply team, through a 2.5 year Supply Graduate Development Program that provides real responsibility from day one.
This is a rotational program that moves Graduates through various areas within the Supply function and allows them to use their knowledge and experience to succeed in areas such as Procurement, Technical Services, Quality, Manufacturing and Supply Services. Roles may include Planning, Quality, Project / Site Project Engineer, Supply Analyst and Shipping Assistant. Each Graduate will also complete a rotation within the factory.

Ability to deliver in a fast paced and challenging environment with mentor supported individual training and development is key. Progression means a steep learning curve in a fast moving FMCG market place where change is constant.

Our standards are high but so are the rewards. Strong analytical skills are essential. And enthusiasm and determination to succeed is every bit as important as the open, confident and internationally mobile person who will fit easily into any environment, taking problems in their stride – it’s what we’d naturally expect as a key member of our global Supply talent pool.

Essential Requirements
* Completion of degree program in either a Manufacturing / Logistics / Engineering discipline will be highly regarded, however applications from other disciplines will be considered.
* Minimum credit average.
* Desire to move internationally
* Fluency in English

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Careers and Employment Service, Griffith University