

SMART LOGISTICS

Fiercely precise

GET YOUR SMART LOGISTICS ROLLING IN FLANDERS

In times of global competition and rapid technological development, Flanders is dedicated to creating added value in logistics. Its strategic location coupled with operational excellence and its people's problem-solving attitude have enabled the northern region of Belgium to develop into a world-leading logistics hub.

Pragmatic and multimodal

Flanders is situated at the economic heart of the EU: 60% of Europe's purchasing power can be found within a radius of 750 km around Brussels, the capital of both Belgium and Flanders and – politically speaking – of the EU. Flanders' territory itself is very compact: Europe's economic superpowers are just a border away. In other words, goods can reach their destinations quickly and cost efficiently: within 24 hours for the largest European markets.

With its multimodal transport infrastructure, Flanders makes the most of this strategic location. Brussels Airport and the seaports of Ostend, Zeebrugge, Ghent and Antwerp – the second-largest port in Europe – receive the largest container ships in the world and form the ideal gateway to the European hinterland. From there, a tight, integrated network of railways, motorways and inland waterways unfolds.

Bridge-building integrator

But smart logistics goes beyond a finely meshed and efficient distribution network. The real added value lies in the human factor: problem-solving, criti-

cal thinking, a pragmatic attitude and readiness to think together. In this sense, Flanders is a region of bridge builders – a tendency that continues to bear fruit. The region's logistics sector is part of an ecosystem that covers the entire value chain. In fact, Flanders is situated in the middle of the largest integrated European industrial cluster and one of the top chemical clusters in the world.

Did you know?

Flanders' road, railroad and waterway networks are among the world's highest ranking in terms of density per square kilometer. (Source: IMD)

To perpetuate and strengthen this role of integrator, Flanders' distribution sector, knowledge institutions and industry partners are united in clusters (such as VIL) that actively share expertise and exchange experience. Flanders' top talent is also constantly looking for ways to prepare infrastructure and logistics flows for the future, investing – among other projects – how complex flows can be automated, secured and made more sustainable.

To this aim, experts and industry players from Flanders integrate the latest technologies in the fields of tracing, robotics, drones, artificial intelligence and more. They apply the principles of the circular economy and develop end-to-end solutions tailored to various niches and target groups. In doing so, individual companies can excel even more in terms of cost efficiency, productivity and convenience in order to meet the needs of their increasingly demanding customers.

Did you know?

Flanders is consistently placed at the top of rankings such as the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index and UNCTAD's Liner Shipping Connectivity Index.

Flanders breathes logistics: fiercely precise

In short, as a logistics player, Flanders is embedded in an integrated ecosystem where knowledge, industry and infrastructure come together with precision to make your international business, distribution and transport activities run like clockwork.



Flanders
State of
the Art