

LogiSYM

The Magazine for Supply Chain Executives

OCTOBER 2024

**THE FUTURE OF
WAREHOUSE LOGISTICS:
ADDRESSING THE
CHALLENGES AND
FINDING SOLUTIONS
THAT WOULD
TRANSFORM THE MIDDLE
EAST & AFRICA (MEA)
REGION INTO A WORLD-
CLASS LOGISTICS HUB**
BY CARSTEN SPIEGELBERG

**LEADING THE CHARGE:
SUPPLY CHAIN
SUSTAINABILITY IN THE
APAC REGION**
BY JOOST ROMPEN

**GREEN LIVING OFF THE
GRID! HOW INSPIRATION
FROM FIJI CAN POWER
GREEN LOGISTICS**
BY TIMOTHY FOOTE

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Asset Management: People, Inventory, Machinery and Goodwill



OCTOBER 2024

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EDITORIAL MESSAGE

The more things change, the more they remain the same

In the ever-evolving landscape of supply chain and logistics, understanding the intricacies of asset management, sustainable practices, and regional advancements are just a few of the critical things logisticians need to address in their high-performing supply chains. This issue of LogiSYM Magazine dives into key aspects shaping the industry on these topics today and tomorrow.

In Green Living Off the Grid! As global awareness of climate change rises, this opinion editorial article highlights with a real-life example how businesses and individuals alike are taking meaningful steps toward sustainable lifestyles, shifting toward renewable energy, and reducing waste.

In Leading the Charge: Supply Chain Sustainability in the APAC Region, we focus on Asia-Pacific's transformative role in driving sustainable supply chain practices. APAC's innovation, regulatory shifts, and growing consumer awareness present unique challenges and opportunities that set the tone for global advancements in sustainable logistics.

Finally, The Future of Warehouse Logistics: Addressing Challenges and Finding Solutions in the MEA Region provides a visionary outlook on how the Middle East and Africa can transform into a world-class logistics hub. From automation and digitalisation to addressing infrastructure gaps, the article outlines a roadmap for MEA's rise on the global logistics stage.

Together, these articles provide insights into how we, as an industry, can leverage technology, sustainability, and forward-thinking strategies to tackle current challenges and build a resilient future. We hope these stories inspire and empower you to lead the charge in your own organisations. Enjoy the read!

Raymon Krishnan, FALA, FCILT, CLP
Editor-In-Chief (Acting)
LogiSYM Magazine



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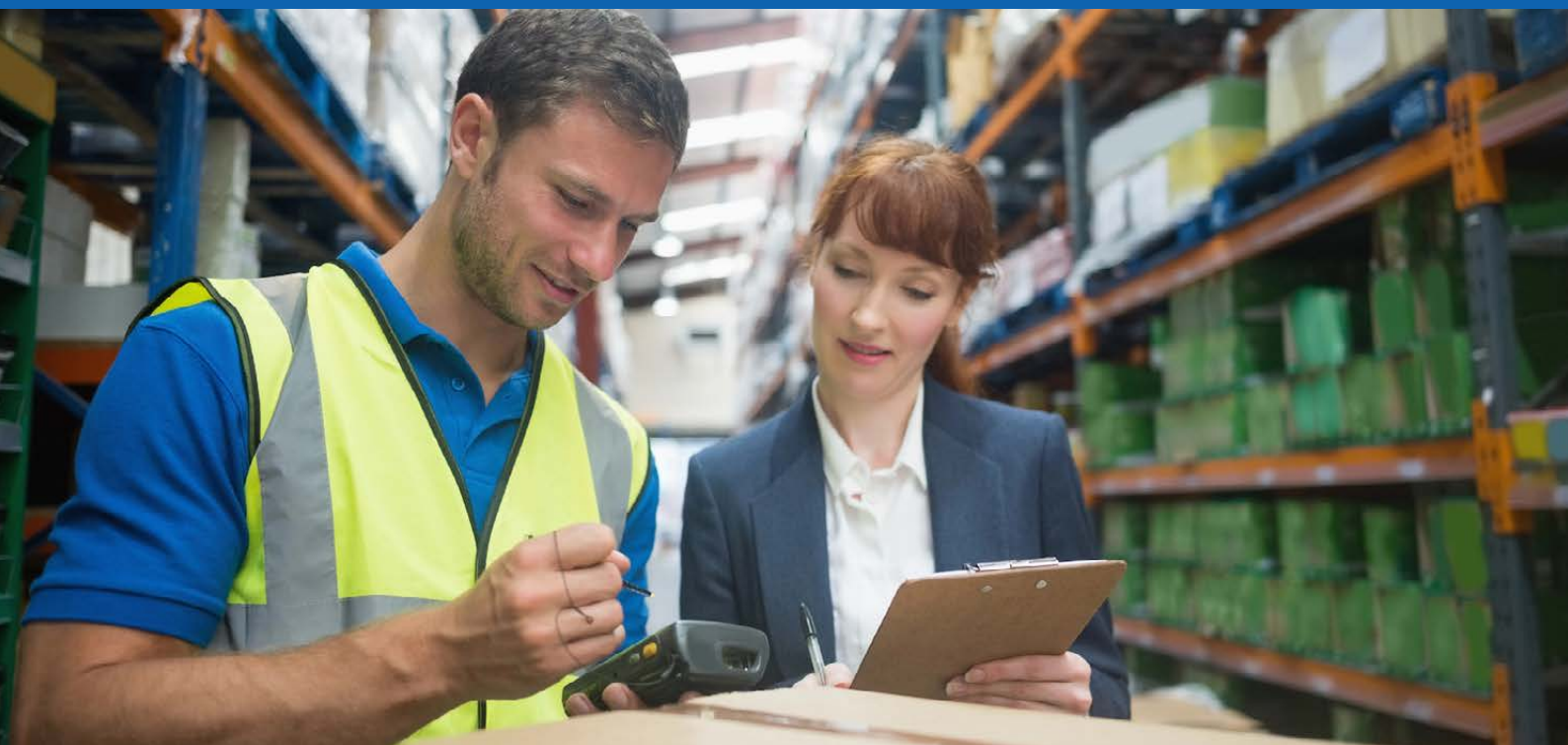
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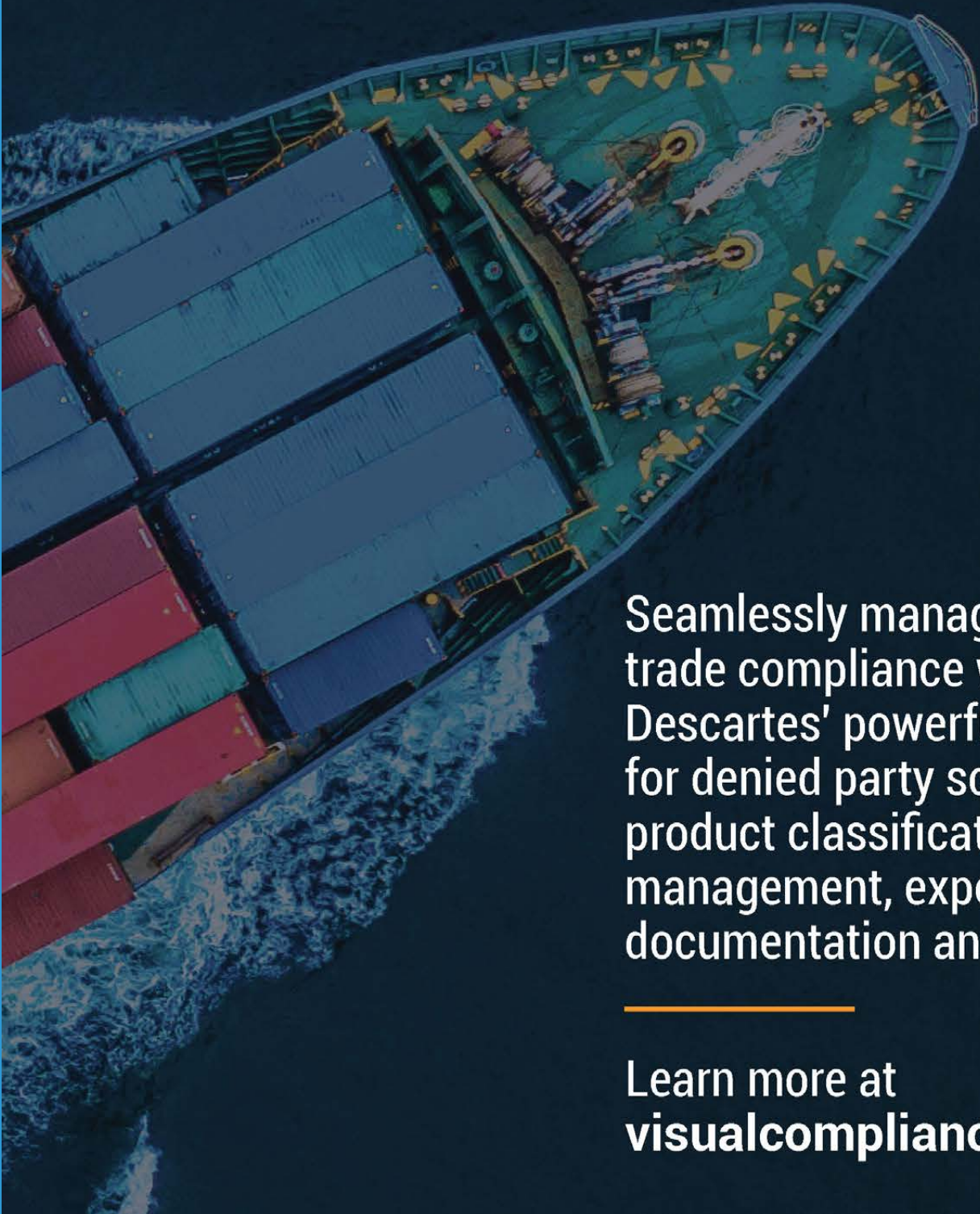
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Yinson GreenTech's marinEV Commences Commercial Trials with Hydromover, the First Electric Light Cargo Vessel

By Yinson GreenTech



Yinson GreenTech's marinEV announced the start of commercial trials for the Hydromover, marking a critical milestone in the decarbonisation of Singapore's maritime industry. It was developed by the Goal Zero Consortium and funded by the

Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and Singapore Maritime Institute (SMI). The lightweight 18.5-meter Hydromover is Singapore's first fully electric cargo vessel. The zero-emission vessel is designed with swappable battery solutions and can

carry up to 25 tonnes of cargo. The Hydromover will reduce operational costs compared to conventional vessels due to significant energy and maintenance cost reductions.

The commercial trials are open to industry leaders looking to reduce carbon footprints from their business activities. This will support Singapore's goal of achieving net-zero emissions in the domestic harbour craft sector by 2050 while allowing harbour craft operators to trial a fully electric lighter craft as part of their existing fleet, experiencing the operational benefits of the innovative technology firsthand.

The inaugural commercial trial commenced with OPL Services on 26 August 2024, when the Hydromover vessel was handed over by marinEV at the Lita



Ocean shipyard. Over the next few months, the Hydromover will be available to harbour craft operators in Singapore to trial charter the vessel as part of their operational fleet of harbour crafts.

YGT acknowledged six potential partners who have provided letters of intent to charter the Hydromover for operational trials with a view to electrifying their fleets in the future. These include two Goal Zero partners, Lita Ocean and DM Sea Logistics, as well as OPL Services, Kanlian Ferry, RW Marine Services, and Tian San Shipping. The six parties' combined fleet is over 200 vessels, marking significant potential for future conversion to electric vessels.

"We are excited to take this significant step towards commercial adoption of

electric vessels in the maritime industry," said Jan-Viggo Johansen, Managing Director of marinEV. "This is a testament to our commitment to innovation and a crucial step in our mission to drive sustainable practices in maritime transport. We invite all industry leaders to partake in these historic commercial trials, taking the opportunity to have their next cargo delivered by a fully electric, zero-emission vessel. By demonstrating the real-world benefits of electric vessels, we hope to accelerate the industry's transition to net zero."

Mr. Stanley Ong, Director of Netline Group, the parent company of OPL Services, said: "As prospective owners, we would like to further understand the capabilities and limitations of an electric vessel and what tangible benefits an EV would bring to the industry and us as business

owners. Our future plans are to align with MPA's green targets by 2030. Therefore, understanding Hydromover and its future iterations is of utmost importance to us as we embark on this journey."

To learn more about participating in the Hydromover's commercial trials, please email marinEV (hydromover@yinson.com).

GOAL ZERO CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

SeaTech Solutions International (S) Pte Ltd.

Yinson GreenTech: yinson.com
Shift Clean Energy: shift-cleanenergy.com

**Rina Hong Kong Limited
Singapore Branch (org)
Lita Ocean Pte Ltd.**



Electric Light Cargo Vessel

Product Description

The Hydromover is an electric light cargo vessel designed to revolutionise cargo transportation in the maritime industry. It was launched by marinEV, a Yinson GreenTech (YGT) business, together with the Goal Zero Consortium (Goal Zero) and partners. Hydromover has been engineered with innovative technology and sustainable design features that offer unparalleled efficiency and reliability.

Key Features



Spacious Cargo Capacity

At the heart of the Hydromover is its spacious deck that can accommodate a cargo capacity of up to 25 tonnes. This makes it an ideal choice for businesses looking to transport cargo with zero emissions at competitive rates.

Optimised Hull Design

Hydromover's hull is designed with extensive hydrodynamic simulation that results in minimal resistance and drag. This enables smooth navigation even in rough seas while conserving energy.

Battery Swapping

One of its key features is its battery-swapping capability, allowing quick and efficient battery replacement to reduce vessel downtime. This feature ensures cargo is delivered on time, every time, making the Hydromover an indispensable asset for businesses with tight schedules.

Smart Bridge

The vessel has dual touch-screen displays that provide the crew with real-time information about the vessel's health and status. This allows the crew to make better-informed decisions and improve safety onboard.

Data-Driven Decision-Making

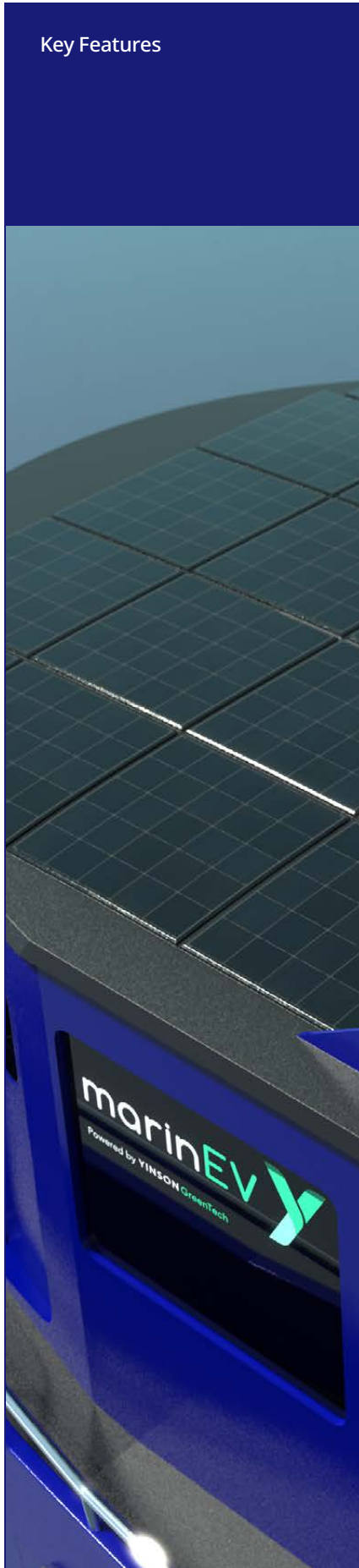
The Hydromover also has advanced decision-making capabilities, including energy optimisation, waypoint calculation, collision detection and future remote/autonomous functions. This allows the Hydromover to operate efficiently and safely while minimising the risk of human errors.

Local Design and Assembly

The Hydromover was built in Singapore, together with the Goal Zero consortium members. The team of expert designers and engineers incorporated the latest technologies and innovations to create a vessel that meets the operational needs of businesses while minimising its impact on the environment.

Electric Light Cargo Vessel

Key Features



Capacities & Facilities:

- Cargo Capacity: Up to 25 Tons
- Cargo Deck Space: 60 m2 Area
- Crew: 4
- Passenger: Up to 8
- Facilities: Toilet, Basin, Galley, Accommodation Cabins

Performance:

- Cruising Speed: 8 – 10 Knots
- Top Speed: 12 Knots
- Range @ Half Load: Up to 40 Nautical Miles

Main Vessel Particulars:

- Vessel Type: Light Cargo Transfer
- Hull Type: Catamaran
- Length (m): 18.5
- Beam (m): 8
- Draft (m), Full Load: 1.6
- Lightweight Displacement (t): 37
- Max Displacement (t): 62
- Material of Construction: Aluminium

For further information on system specifications, deck equipment, ship systems, and classifications, please visit:
<https://marinev-ygt.com/light-cargo/>

The Hydromover was built in collaboration with the Goal Zero Consortium Partners. Our key collaborators include:

- SeaTech Solutions – seatechsolutions.com
- Shift Clean Energy – shift-cleanenergy.com
- Rina Hong Kong Limited Singapore Branch – RINA.org
- Lita Ocean Pte Ltd – litaocean.com

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As part of YGT's overall ecosystem of solutions for port electrification, YGT spearheaded Hydromover's programme management, system solutions development and commercialisation, while its Goal Zero partners were involved in other areas of responsibility. As lead, SeaTech was the vessel designer; Shift Clean Energy was the battery technology partner; RINA Hong Kong Limited Singapore Branch was the classification society, while Lita Ocean was the builder of the Hydromover.

Electric Light Cargo Vessel

Potential Impact

- The Hydromover, being fully electric, can halve operational costs and has zero emissions.
- It tackles some of the most significant barriers to the adoption of electric vehicles, such as cost, availability of charging infrastructure, regulative requirements, and acceptance by the maritime community.
- The Hydromover is a part of marinEV's suite of solutions for port electrification and a subset of Yinson GreenTech's broader efforts towards positively charging the transition towards a net-zero world.

Jan-Viggo Johansen

Managing Director, marinEV

Professional Background: Jan-Viggo Johansen is the Managing Director of marinEV, the Yinson GreenTech business dedicated to deploying electric solutions for maritime sustainability. With over 15 years of experience within the FPSO sector, Jan-Viggo is fueled by a deep-seated passion for fostering a cleaner environment and driving social impact on a grand scale.

Areas of Responsibility and Interest at Yinson GreenTech (YGT): As the leader of marinEV, Jan-Viggo leverages his deep industry knowledge to guide the marinEV team to deliver innovative solutions, driving the decarbonisation of the maritime sector.

Professional Goals: Combining technical expertise with a visionary approach, Jan-Viggo aims to strengthen marinEV's position as a leader in marine electrification, thereby contributing to a cleaner maritime future and positively charging the transition towards a net-zero world.





From land to sea, with an ecosystem for all, we spark a movement we call Positively Charged."

Yinson GreenTech energises the electric transition across diverse industries. We invest in fusing cutting-edge technologies with clean energy solutions, fostering a collaborative ecosystem that empowers businesses and communities to achieve their net-zero ambitions. At the heart of our strategy lies a robust digital backbone that seamlessly integrates our green solutions, optimises operations, and unlocks superior efficiency. This sets us apart by enabling data-driven decision-making and intelligent automation.

We put electrified transport into the hands of everyday users through our five businesses:

- **marinEV** – Pioneering the development of fully electric vessels for crew transfers and light cargo transfers

- **drivEV** – Empowering enterprises and businesses with electric fleet solutions

- **rydeEV** – Electrifying the micro-mobility space with electric two-wheelers (E2Ws), including battery-swapping technology and fast charging solutions

- **chargEV** – Leading charge point operator with an extensive EV-charging station network for public and private usage

- **digitalEV** – Enabling seamless software support and integration for sustainable technologies across Yinson GreenTech's businesses

We are a business of Yinson Holdings Berhad, a global energy infrastructure and technology company active in offshore energy with Yinson Production, renewable energy with Yinson Renewables, green technologies with Yinson GreenTech, sustainable investment and asset management with Farosson, and offshore marine with Regulus Offshore.

For more information about us, please visit ygt.yinson.com.





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The Future of Warehouse Logistics: Addressing the Challenges and Finding Solutions that would Transform the Middle East & Africa (MEA) Region into a world-class logistics hub.

By Carsten Spiegelberg

*Managing Director -
Middle East and Africa, SSI SCHAEFER*



As industries worldwide embrace technological advancements, the MEA region stands at the cusp of a transformative era in warehousing and intralogistics. Automation, whether it was once a futuristic concept or a 'wish list' of big corporations, is now a proven and critical driver of efficiency, productivity, and innovation. Over the past few years, the region has witnessed a dynamic transformation in its logistics and warehousing sectors, driven by significant economic reforms, infrastructure development, and a surge in e-commerce activities.

Developing markets in the Middle East, such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, have made significant strides in transforming their logistics sector, driven by the Saudi Vision 2030 initiative. Investments exceeding USD 106.6 billion have also bolstered logistics infrastructure, making the Kingdom a pivotal logistics hub in the region, according to Aawsat. United Arab Emirates, the UAE continues to innovate in logistics, with major projects like the Al Mafraq-Al Ghuwaifat road upgrade and Dubai South development.

At the heart of this revolution is SSI Schaefer, a global leader in providing cutting-edge intralogistics automation solutions. The company's commitment and expertise are evident in its steps to support the region with the integration of advanced technologies

and strategic infrastructure, instilling confidence in the region's logistics prowess.

Urgent Need for Solutions Through Automation: Addressing the Real Key Challenges in Warehouse Logistics

In this article, we draw the limelight to three explosive industries: e-commerce, pharmaceutical, and food & beverage warehousing logistics. These industries face similar hurdles, and it is crucial that we find collective solutions to intensify business operations during peak seasons. How should organisations tame this monstrous period while managing customers' expectations and the expense of employees' health and costs?

"Surge and more surges"—as we approach the last quarter of 2024, we will be entering into the festive season globally, where all retailers and their employees, regardless of industry, prepare to attempt to tame the monstrous season. With a higher volume of orders, diverse SKU varieties, and increasing consumer expectations for fast and reliable deliveries, employees are stretching their late nights and energy to focus on picking the accurate orders that are viable and to meet their industries' regulatory standards.

Warehouses need to handle a vast array of SKUs efficiently,

and automation systems such as high-bay warehouses and shuttle solution systems might excel in managing these complexities by providing quick and accurate storage and retrieval of items. Since these systems, in combination with manual or automatic picking technologies, can significantly reduce errors, increase operational efficiency, and improve order fulfilment times, which are crucial for maintaining customer satisfaction in a competitive market, why are companies not rushing to automate?

Initial Costs and the Uncertainty of Returns of Investment

The upfront costs of realising automation can be significant, and it might pose a significant barrier for many businesses. However, viewing it as a strategic investment with substantial long-term benefits can make a difference. How

the potential return on investment (ROI) and the steps to make informed decisions must begin by conducting a thorough cost-benefit analysis, considering factors such as labour concerns and savings, error reduction, and increased operational efficiency and speed.

SSI Schaefer provides a thorough cost-benefit analysis for clients. By evaluating the specific needs and current operational challenges of a business, SSI Schaefer can assist in identifying how automation solutions can bring substantial savings in labour costs, reduce errors in picking and handling operations, and thereby increase overall warehouse operation efficiency. Such analysis typically includes:

Overcoming Initial Cost and a Comprehensive Cost-Benefit Analysis

Labour Savings: An appropriate level of automation can significantly reduce the need for manual labour, leading to long-term savings on wages, reduce reliance on a limited labour pool, and provide other employee benefits. Identifying the most labour-intensive part of the material flow process to start with is essential.

Error Reduction: Automating processes enables continuous operations, crucial for meeting high consumer demand and ensuring timely deliveries. These systems enhance order processing accuracy and reduce errors. Integrating with a warehouse management system (WMS) optimises resource allocation and overall efficiency. Such assessment is more than just automating tasks; identifying problematic bottlenecks and legacy system constraints would keep the investment realistic and prevent the need to 'upgrade'





for the sake of technology novelty.

Integration with Existing Systems: Many warehouses operate with existing systems and technologies that have been in place for years. Integrating new automation hardware and software with existing systems might pose a significant challenge and concern to employees working with legacy systems. Overcoming this hurdle is crucial for the success of seamless integration with current systems and operational infrastructure. The human aspect of the issue cannot be ignored. Businesses should prioritise compatibility and invest in flexible automation solutions that seamlessly integrate with their current infrastructure. The thorough assessments conducted by the team ensure

a smooth transition and the planning implementations that align with current processes.

Tailored Solutions for Specific Needs: Customised automation solutions tailored to each business's unique requirements aren't just about understanding specific pain points and operational goals. A bespoke approach ensures that every dollar invested brings measurable improvements in productivity and efficiency. Since every business has its own unique needs, the approach to customising solutions to fit seamlessly within the existing infrastructure works best for businesses that prepare well in advance, such as by conducting data mining and research into historical and fulfilment inventory patterns.

Scalability and Flexibility

One of the strengths of "innovative solutioning" is the ability to scale the warehouse space whenever and wherever needed. Businesses can start with a smaller, more affordable system and expand it as needed. This approach allows businesses to manage initial costs more effectively while still benefiting from automation..

Advanced Technology Integration

SSI Schaefer leverages cutting-edge technology to deliver superior performance; the wide range of solutions driven by AI, robotics, and IoT can certainly ensure that automation systems are not only efficient but also future-proof. The latest SSI



Piece Picking is an example of the next-generation Picking Robots launched by SSI Schaefer this fall. Taking piecepicking to the next level, the solution won first place in the 2024 IFOY (International Intralogistics and Forklift Truck of the Year Award) Award—'Stationary Robots' Category.

Today there is AI-based object recognition and innovative gripper technology available. The use of compact suction cups instead of finger-shaped grippers allows for fast and gentle handling of small parts. With the help of machine learning, the system continuously improves and builds a comprehensive knowledge database. The pick-and-place method ensures particularly gentle handling, achieving optimal utilisation of storage space. The compact design of the cell allows for easy transport in a shipping container.

The Future of Warehouse Logistics in the MEA Region

As the MEA continues to push the boundaries of logistics innovation and infrastructure development, automation is poised to play an important role in transformation. These are some trends that are expected to shape the future of warehouse logistics:

Advanced Robotics and AI: The synergy between robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) is set to augment the capabilities of automated systems. Such integration will allow the logistics operation to handle complex tasks with greater efficiency and boost overall productivity.

IoT Integration: The Internet of Things (IoT) will possibly be the key to connecting various components of the supply

chain. By providing real-time data and insights, IoT will help improve the decision-making process.

Patented Gripping Point Optimisation:

The robot's control scanning manages to read more than 99% of the products on the first try. The patent-pending picking point optimisation automatically shifts the gripping point, ensuring barcodes are unobscured so they can be scanned immediately.

High Performance:

The portal robot uses compact suction knobs instead of finger-shaped grippers. That allows it to reach every corner of a container and grip even the smallest part. The speed adjusts individually to the specific product to save

valuable time. With SSI Piece Picking, you can pick up to 1,200 small parts per hour.

Pick and Place

Delicate pharmaceutical products or expensive luxury cosmetics dream solutions. With a pick-and-place approach, the picking robot places each item as close as possible to the bottom of the container or the storage location above the items already in the container. This not only guarantees especially gentle product handling but also ensures precise placement to optimise the filling level.

Smart Technology

AI-based object recognition with integrated scanning

and weighing functions guarantees error-free product verification. If something unexpected happens, the smart solution knows exactly what to do: Automatic error correction solves problems like unreadable barcodes right in the robot cell, reducing the need for manual interventions to the absolute minimum.

Any Task, Any Industry

Whether the packaging is cubical, cylindrical, tube-shaped, or blister packs, the application is effective in a wide range of product assortments across different industries. Furthermore, it improves with every pick: Machine learning allows SSI Piece Picking to accumulate and process experiences.

The Future of Warehouse Logistics in the MEA Region

As the MEA continues to push the boundaries of logistics innovation and infrastructure development, automation is poised to play an important role in transformation. These are some trends that are expected to shape the future of warehouse logistics:

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The synergy between robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) is set to augment the capabilities of automated systems. Such integration will allow the logistics operation to handle complex tasks with greater efficiency and boost overall productivity.





cybersecurity measures will be essential to protect against cyber threats and maintain the integrity of operations and data.

SSI SCHAEFER



Carsten Spiegelberg
Managing Director -
Middle East and Africa,
SSI SCHAEFER

SSI Schaefer offers a wide range of maintenance and customer service support and training, easing the transition for employees and minimising the learning curves. To supplement businesses in leveraging the full potential of adopting technology, SSI Schaefer emphasises the importance of robust cybersecurity measures; these include secure communication channels, regular software updates, and employee training on best practices to mitigate cyber risks. With a solid proven track record backed by numerous case studies and client testimonials, SSI Schaefer is the partner of choice in the automation journey for many businesses. For more information, contact SSI Schaefer: https://www.ssi-schaefer.com/en-ae/about-us/contact-us?pagelabel=de_company

IoT Integration: The Internet of Things (IoT) will possibly be the key to connecting various components of the supply chain. By providing real-time data and insights, IoT will help improve the decision-making process.

Sustainability: With a growing focus on sustainable practices, automating the warehouse

systems will contribute by monitoring and enhancing energy usage and reducing waste. Regardless of the size of the business footprint, every organisation holds the key to aligning itself with global sustainability goals.

Cybersecurity: As warehouses become more automated and interconnected, robust



Leading the Charge: Supply Chain Sustainability in the APAC Region

By Joost Rompen

Country Director of Slimstock Singapore

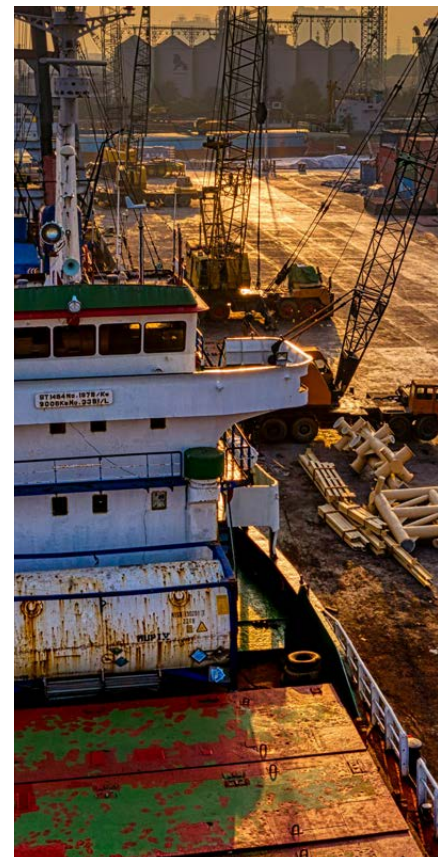
Look around the bustling cities or at the myriad of targeted online ads in the Asia Pacific region, and there is a theme that's hard to escape: sustainability. From eco-friendly products to ethically sourced materials, the push towards sustainable practices is evident.

However, sustainability in supply chains is not just consumer-driven. A recent survey highlighted that 48% of CEOs see increasing sustainability in the supply chain as a top business priority. Considering the potential risks and costs of unsustainable practices, it's no surprise that supply chain sustainability is now a key topic in boardrooms across

the APAC region. In fact, the supply chain accounts for a staggering 90% of the overall environmental impact, encompassing everything from raw materials to distribution emissions.

Sustainability in supply chains includes social and economic considerations.

As the complexity of supply chains in APAC increases, so does their environmental impact. This makes it imperative for businesses to create supply chains that are sustainable, ethical, and competitive.





Ensuring Ethical Practices in Your Supply Chain

Are the workers within your supply chain employed fairly and ethically? It's crucial to examine whether your practices and those of your suppliers align with ethical standards. This involves assessing your sourcing strategies—choosing ethically sourced raw materials, prioritising fair trade, and avoiding conflict minerals. Equally important is providing safe working conditions, fair wages, and upholding human rights. By promoting diversity, equality, and inclusion, you foster social responsibility that positively impacts both local communities and global networks.

Balancing Social and Economic Responsibility

Neglecting social responsibility can alienate the very people you depend on to buy or use your products. Similarly, overlooking economic responsibility can jeopardise your company's long-term success. As a cornerstone of supply chain sustainability, economic responsibility involves managing financial commitments to stakeholders—customers, suppliers, and partners—through fair negotiations and reliable delivery on promises. Beyond this, it's about surpassing expectations in social responsibility and environmental impact, all while ensuring your business remains profitable and sustainable.

A Deeper Analysis of Supply Chain Sustainability

Defining supply chain sustainability begins with asking critical questions: How eco-friendly is your supply chain? Can it be improved? Are there better ways to source raw materials, manufacture, distribute, and dispose of products, or even eliminate waste entirely?

Sustainability in supply chains encompasses more than just environmental impact; it also includes social and economic considerations. A truly sustainable supply chain addresses all three aspects—environmental, social, and economic—to ensure a holistic approach that benefits both the business and society.

Understanding Your Environmental Impact

To improve your environmental impact, you must first understand where you stand. Start by assessing the carbon footprint of your supply chain. This includes evaluating greenhouse gas emissions, waste generation, resource consumption, and energy inefficiencies. By identifying these areas, you can pinpoint where improvements are needed, often revealing surprising insights about your operations. Once you have this understanding, you can take targeted actions to reduce your environmental footprint and enhance sustainability across your supply chain.

Achieving a Leaner Supply Chain That Is Fit for A Purpose

Opportunities to streamline your supply chain are abundant, and the benefits are clear. However, there's no quick fix for achieving sustainability—it requires effort and investment. While initial costs may seem daunting, focussing on small, incremental improvements can yield significant results over time. For instance, optimising packaging and smarter ordering could reduce shipments and boost efficiency. A series of small gains, such as a 1% increase

in efficiency, can accumulate into substantial improvements. With the global consumer base expanding rapidly, now is the time to view sustainability as a strategic opportunity, shifting from cost-cutting to profit-maximising initiatives.

Many businesses have successfully embraced supply chain sustainability.

However, it's not just large-scale initiatives that matter. Small changes can have a significant impact. Imagine reducing your inventory by just 10%. While it may seem minor, if every business did the same, the collective environmental

benefit could be substantial—potentially preventing further environmental harm.

Achieving inventory reduction and environmental benefits

How can you reduce inventory by 10% without affecting sales? Even the leanest operations often have excess that can be trimmed through better stocking policies, improved forecast accuracy, and optimised service levels. This goal is achievable with effective supply chain decision-making and the right business partners.

A 10% inventory reduction doesn't just boost efficiency—it also benefits the environment by cutting CO2 emissions, reducing energy consumption, and minimising waste. On average, 8% of all inventories end up as waste, contributing to \$163 billion lost annually. By better managing your supply chain, you can significantly lower emissions, reduce warehouse space, and decrease shipping, all while saving stock from landfills.

Sustainability isn't just eco-friendly; it's a smart business move. With 30% of consumers preferring brands with strong ethical values and 28% avoiding companies with ethical concerns, aligning your brand with sustainability can offer a significant competitive edge.

Harnessing S&OP for a Greener Supply Chain

Achieving supply chain sustainability requires a





unified approach where every part of the process works in harmony. Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP) provides the essential framework for this integration. By aligning sales forecasts with production capacities and inventory management, S&OP not only enhances efficiency but also supports the implementation of sustainable practices throughout your organization. With S&OP, you can create a foundation for reducing waste, optimising resource use, and promoting environmental responsibility. Explore how S&OP can be a catalyst for advancing sustainability in your supply chain.

Integrated Planning for a Sustainable Future

As supply chain expert Tony Wild aptly put it, “Inventory is the physical consequence of missing data.” In the realm of sustainability, this translates to significant waste sent to landfills and emissions from incineration. Despite the abundance of data many businesses possess, the challenge lies in effectively gathering, integrating, and analysing this information to make informed decisions.

Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP) facilitates this by fostering cross-functional collaboration and providing a structured framework

for capturing and utilising supply chain insights. More crucially, S&OP aligns teams with a unified vision, resulting in more accurate baseline forecasts. This collaborative approach ensures that future demand predictions are validated through consensus, enabling businesses to better synchronise supply with demand and significantly reduce excess inventory, contributing to a more sustainable supply chain.

Fostering Collaboration and Enhancing Risk Management for Sustainability

Sustainable progress cannot be achieved by maintaining the status quo or by isolated departmental efforts. For meaningful and lasting improvements, a unified approach across the entire organisation is essential. In essence, to drive sustainability, innovation must be a collective endeavour.

A robust Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP) process promotes collaboration and information sharing, empowering the organisation to challenge conventional practices, exchange ideas, and adopt best practices. When these sustainability initiatives are aligned with profit maximisation and employee satisfaction, they become integral to overall company success and are celebrated as significant achievements.

Integrating sustainability risks, such as resource scarcity, into your S&OP process can significantly bolster your



Joost Rompen
Country Director of
Slimstock Singapore

A knowledge company that provides global enterprises with its award-winning inventory optimisation solutions. He is a seasoned supply chain specialist with close to 20 years of experience holding senior roles in planning, analysis and management. His experience underpins his deep understanding of how the supply chain forms a vital backbone of any stock-holding company and how leveraging the right IT tools can enhance supply chain efficiency, which in turn benefits the entire organisation.



company's resilience. This may involve diversifying suppliers, exploring alternative market routes, or working with different materials. The more informed and proactive you are, the better equipped you'll be to navigate potential challenges. Ignoring these risks in favour of a "hope for the best" strategy has proven to be a perilous approach in the past.

Embracing Continuous Improvement for Sustainability

No matter how effective your operations are today, there's always room for enhancement tomorrow. This principle of continuous improvement is central to the principles of Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP). By integrating your sustainability objectives into

the S&OP process, you can systematically monitor and measure progress, ensuring ongoing refinement and growth.

Aligning your sustainability goals with integrated planning, collaboration, risk management, and a commitment to continuous improvement maximises the likelihood of realising significant benefits. These improvements may manifest as increased efficiency, enhanced customer satisfaction, a stronger brand reputation, or even leadership in sustainable practices. With a focus on continual advancement, the potential for success—green and sustainable—becomes virtually limitless.



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A photograph of a wind turbine and solar panels under a cloudy sky. The wind turbine is in the upper right, and the solar panels are in the lower left. A teal semi-transparent box is overlaid in the center, containing the title and author information.

GREEN LIVING OFF THE GRID!

How inspiration from Fiji can power green logistics

By Timothy Foote

Director Transportation and Network APAC at Asendia
and Founder of Susymbio



purely because it makes better business sense.

Life Off-Grid

There are no electric lines supplying electricity to Carl's dive resort. In order to run the lights, the chargers, the hot water, and other necessary comforts for a resort, all of the power needs to be generated right there. To Carl's advantage, living in the tropics means plenty of sunshine. Enough, in fact, to power the resort by clever use of solar power.

Solar power is not expensive either. It is actually much more affordable than fossil fuel if judged on an even playing field. In the graph below from Lazard (an asset management and financial advisor firm), one can see it is nearly half the cost of generating power from coal and less than 40% of gas.

Carl installed solar panels on the lodge's roof back in 2016. These were of the 400-watt model. Batteries, panels, wiring, and so forth were all needed to make it work, but it is simple enough that companies like Renogy actively sell units for regular consumers to start living

Assets are the theme for October, and when it comes to sustainable energy, there is likely no better asset than solar power panels and power converters. These assets have fundamentally changed the energy and power landscape for the world. This fact was once again demonstrated to me during a recent trip I made to Fiji.

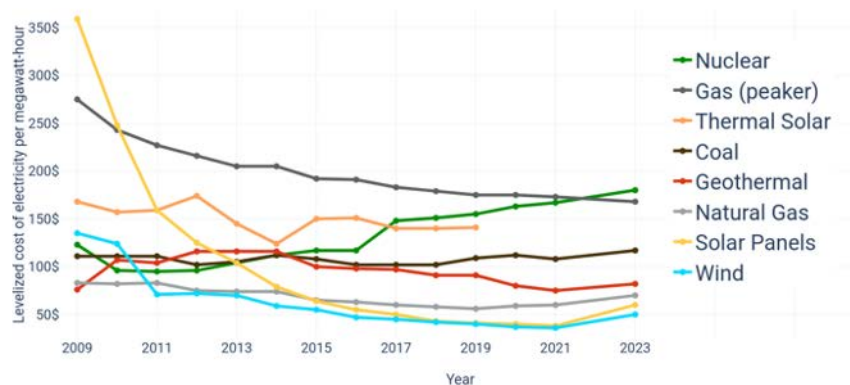
On the island of Taveuni sits a comfortable dive resort. My wife and I were able to spend a beautiful week there this August. The chance to unwind and see the wonderful ocean life in the South Pacific was truly magical. We first visited Taveuni dive resort in 2016, and I can report to you that the ocean life then was just as vibrant as it was then.

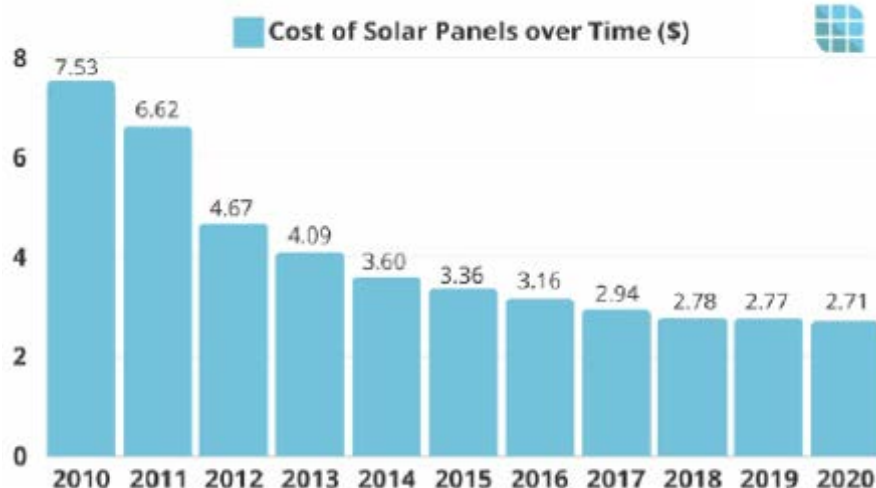
During the ritual "dive, eat, sleep, and repeat" routine of our days there, I had some time to talk with Carl, the owner of the resort. He shared several snippets regarding how he was able to set up the resort over the years. His struggles to keep his boats

afloat, the escapades of his remarkable staff, and the challenges of reconstruction after Cyclone Winston.

Making a business in the remote part of Taveuni makes for some incredible challenges. That said, the assets that Carl put in place early have allowed for continued operation and even growth over nearly 10 years of operation. Primary among these assets was power-generating solar power. There was always the option to use multiple fossil fuel burning generators, but the supply of fuel and the variable cost of transporting and buying the fuel propelled Carl to go green

Electricity costs according to data from Lazard





on their own solar power grid. Those setup costs and the technology of the solar panels themselves continue to bring down those costs as well. Where back in 2010, the prospect of building a solar array for making electricity could have been out of reach, the costs today would present a very different picture.

This decrease in costs is mostly a result of the technological advances being made in capturing the sun's power. Where back in 2015 commercial panels would generally reach that 15–17% efficiency rate,

now top commercial panels can offer 22–23% efficiency. Science and industry are currently racing to capture the remaining power that the sun is providing, and they still have some ways to go.

Applications for Logistics Managers

If you are operating a warehouse or building where solar power is not yet in place, it may be time to look at adding energy-creating systems that can replace your fossil fuel-generated power. These are assets that can bring

savings to your running costs and, at the same time, reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well.

Additionally, there are even solar systems that fit onto vehicles. These truck solar systems are especially useful for vehicles that need power outside of running the truck motor. Refrigeration is one of the more obvious user cases, but so are liftbacks or other ancillary systems.

I have written about this in LogiSYM Magazine April 2023, "Catching the Sun Light!" (<https://events.logisym.org/the-green-corridor-catching-the-sun-light-how-logistics-is-harnessing-the-power-of-the-sun/>) . Please look into the archive to take a look. In that article, I provide some real examples and programs that are available to logistics managers in the region.

Solar power is our future, and people are getting more and more adept at installing it for different user cases. So please look for something to inspire you. A trip to Fiji, or perhaps somewhere closer to home.





Timothy Foote

Director Transportation and Network APAC at Asendia and Founder of Susymbio

Tim has worked in management positions at multiple MNCs for more than 25 years, gaining expansive expertise in logistical operations. Tim continues to craft delivery solutions for many e-commerce clients at Asendia. Once a regional Head of Go Green at DHL eCommerce, Tim now works for customers to decarbonize their logistics by managing Asendia's 100% carbon-neutral network.

To further promote a net zero future for the logistics industry, Tim created MOVE GREEN. This is a movement committed to greening the logistics industry during this time of transformation. Please join the companies making a pledge to become net zero by going to Susymbio.com for more details.



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Cainiao Doubles Down on Global Logistics Network with Launch of Second Batch of Global e-Hub Construction

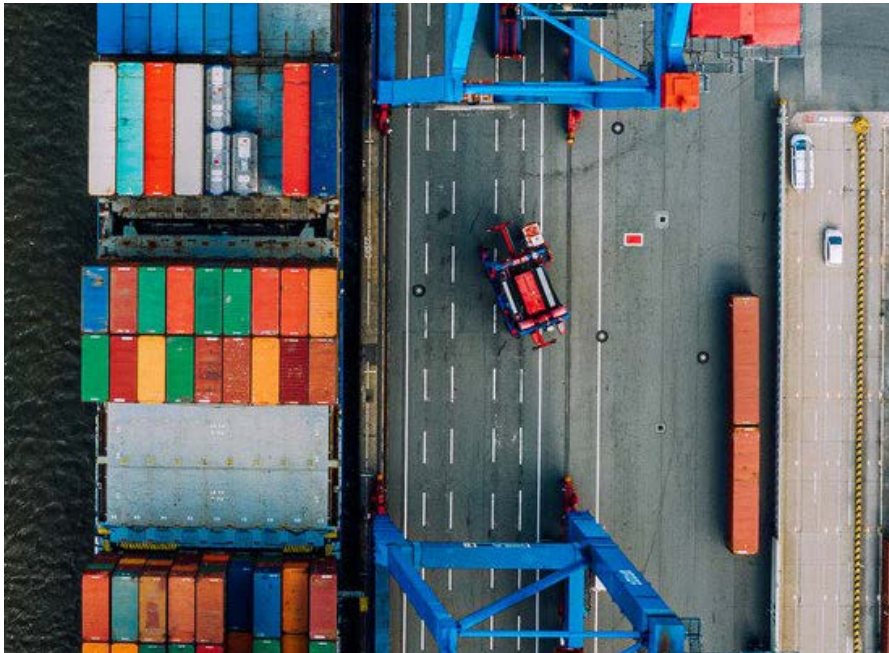
By Cainiao Group

Cainiao Group, a global leader in e-commerce logistics, today announced the launch of the second batch of its global e-commerce logistics hubs (e-Hubs), aimed at creating a shared infrastructure that supports all e-commerce platforms, merchants, and brands in their efforts to sell both online and offline worldwide. This initiative is part of Cainiao's global strategy to strengthen its end-to-end logistics capabilities and achieve the long-term goal of global deliveries within 72 hours.

"In e-commerce, supply chain and logistics are crucial competitive factors," said Joe Tsai, co-founder and chairman of Alibaba Group and chairman of Cainiao Smart Logistics

CEO of Cainiao Group, Wan Lin, at the
2024 Global Smart Logistics Summit





Network. "Alibaba is fully supporting Cainiao's global expansion to build a logistics network that meets future industrial and supply chain needs. By integrating AI-driven innovations and focussing on a customer-first approach, we encourage Cainiao to build a logistics network that serves the open market, addresses diverse customer needs, and acts as a shared infrastructure for global business partners."

CEO of Cainiao Group, Wan Lin, at the 2024 Global Smart Logistics Summit

"As a global leader in the e-commerce logistics sector, Cainiao has continuously invested in building a world-wide logistics network. This expansion is a vital step in enhancing Cainiao's international express delivery, overseas local delivery services, and supply chain solutions. It will strengthen our position in the fast-growing e-commerce and logistics market, allowing us to

deliver enhanced end-to-end logistics solutions that improve retail experiences for our customers and facilitate their global expansion," says Wan Lin, CEO of Cainiao Group.

Cainiao will begin constructing the second batch of e-Hubs in strategic locations to strengthen control over key nodes in its global network. Currently, the company operates several e-Hubs in Liège, Kuala Lumpur, and Hong Kong, all positioned near high-traffic airports with multi-modal capabilities to improve connectivity to major markets globally, integrating cargo terminals, customs clearance, and sorting functions. With more e-Hubs planned for the future, Cainiao is well-positioned to facilitate the fast and smooth movement of e-commerce parcels, serving a broad spectrum of industries and sectors.



Cainiao Group

Cainiao is a global leader in e-commerce logistics. We are the largest provider of cross-border e-commerce logistics services globally and a leader in China logistics services. Drawing on our deep e-commerce insights and technological capabilities, we have established a smart logistics network with end-to-end logistics capabilities on a global scale. Our innovative solutions redefine industry standards and unlock new market opportunities for our customers and partners in e-commerce and beyond, throughout China and across the world. For more information, please visit <https://www.cainiao.com/en/index.html>.

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