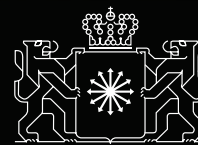


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Nederland Distributieland  
Holland International Distribution Council  
Matchmaker for logistics partnerships in Europe



NDL / HIDC

**The Netherlands;**  
Your Logistics  
Gateway to Europe

# The Netherlands; Your Logistics Gateway to Europe

Europe is an attractive and lucrative market that offers strong growth potential to foreign exporters and investors. With a population of around 500 million people and a relatively high purchasing power, it is one of the world's largest consumer and industrial markets. The Netherlands is an ideal site to base pan-European logistics operations. Why?

## The Netherlands – Central Location

The Netherlands is ideally located in North-Western Europe and perfectly positioned to serve the pan-European market. It is home to Europe's largest port, the Port of Rotterdam and Europe's third largest cargo airport, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol and boasts excellent multimodal hinterland connections. Companies based here have quick and easy access to key markets throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Do you know that the Netherlands is the biggest port for Germany and that the city of Venlo is used as access point for the German market by countless multinationals?

## The Netherlands – Excellent infrastructure

No other country in the West-European region can offer such a convenient combination of both sea- and airport locations. At these world-class mainports, logistics services are available 24/7. And through the extensive network of inland connections goods find their way to and from the European market fast and efficient and at competitive rates by road, inland shipping, rail, pipeline, short sea or feeder. The fact that we have two main Gateways (Schiphol Airport and Rotterdam port) and a cluster of warehousing locations situated in an area of 100 x 100 kilometers makes the Netherlands an attractive market for EDC operations.

## The Netherlands – Top-quality logistics expertise

The Netherlands is an undisputed leader in the area of European Distribution Centers (EDCs) for American and Asian companies operating in Europe. Our country hosts around 57% of all EDCs owned by American and Asian companies. Over 1,000 American and Asian companies have centralized their European distribution activities via the Netherlands. Of these, around 75% outsourced their distribution activities to logistics service providers, indicating the strength of Dutch transport and logistics services.

## The Netherlands – Competitive tax and customs climate

The Dutch tax and customs authorities are well-known for their practical and pro-active approach towards facilitating international trade and optimizing procedures. This is reflected in the possibility of concluding advance rulings, which can result in a binding agreement that gives businesses clarity and certainty.

Establishing a legal entity in the Netherlands, when conducting business, is not required, as there are no special restrictions on foreign owned companies starting a business through a branch office in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands is known for its very competitive tax climate resulting from a corporate income tax rate of 25% (well below the EU national average), a far-reaching tax treaty network, a system of bonded warehouses and a VAT deferment possibility upon importation.

## The Netherlands – best point of access to enter the European market

As a small and very internationally oriented country, situated right in the middle of Europe's main economies, the Netherlands has always been considered to be a neutral and ideal country to cover all of these markets, not only from a logistics perspective, but also from a marketing & sales perspective.

## Wish to discuss European logistics?; NDL/HIDC, your matchmaker for logistics in Europe

How will you design your supply chain for the European market?

What are the rules and regulations with regard to tax and VAT?

What is the best logistics solution with the lowest costs and highest level of service for your customers?

Over the past 20 years NDL/HIDC has assisted several hundreds of companies (both small and large) in making the right choice with respect to their European supply chain design, legal structure, site selection, partnership selection and recruitment. By involving NDL/HIDC these companies have saved valuable time and money in the process and they have been able to go for the best option the first time. As such NDL/HIDC has been able to make their entry into the EU much more efficiently and effectively.

NDL/HIDC is a private, non-profit organization with in-depth knowledge of the market and a hands-on mentality. Our tailor-made services are free of charge, totally confidential and without any obligation.

Welcome to the Netherlands;  
Your Logistics Gateway to Europe!