THE RIGHT PRESCRIPTION FOR YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN
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Our supply chain services
Continuously evolving and improving, our wide-ranging solutions help organizations to address their most complex, pressing operational needs from transportation to management services.

Supply chain challenges
Life sciences and healthcare companies are remodelling their supply chains in order to increase reliability and security, trim costs and reduce time to market.

Our supply chain solutions
We provide unrivalled heritage and capability in compliant, specialist supply chain solutions to the global healthcare industry.
SUPPLY CHAIN CHALLENGES

Life sciences and healthcare companies are remodelling their supply chains in order to increase reliability and security, trim costs and reduce time to market for new products and technologies, to achieve a competitive advantage.

Complexity
Over the past decade, the supply chains of life sciences and healthcare companies have tended to become ever more complex with multiple manufacturing facilities, favourable tax regimes, long lead times on biologics, seasonality for vaccines and product launch for generics. This is in part due to initiatives designed to cut costs, address time pressures and comply with regulatory requirements. Over time, this can lead to unnecessarily complex systems that undermine efforts to streamline supply chains and identify areas of improvement.

Regulatory requirements
Companies operating in the life sciences and healthcare space are subject to an ever changing and growing set of regulations and compliance requirements that vary between countries and regions. Supply chains need to be able to comply with regulations, without sacrificing efficiency and cost effectiveness, which requires agility to take advantage of regulatory changes.

Mergers and acquisitions
The pharmaceutical industry continues to see an increase in mergers and acquisitions as companies look to boost product pipelines, acquire much needed expertise in areas such as biotechnology, and access new revenue streams such as generics. Merging companies may have very different approaches to supply chain, and these will need to be integrated in the most efficient and least disruptive manner if cost and efficiency savings are to be realized.

Temperature assurance
The industry increasingly has a requirement for temperature controlled transport, storage and production, which can add an additional layer of complexity for supply chain managers. Dealing with supply chains that require controlled temperatures (2-8°C, 15-25°C etc.) and very low temperatures (for example -150°C), throughout a global network of facilities and transport methods is a key skill which is increasingly required.

Counterfeit products
Counterfeiting of products is a growing problem, intensified by the rise of online commerce. The need to ensure a safe and genuine product has led to a number of companies re-evaluating supply chain processes to prove e-pedigree. In some cases they are supplying direct to pharmacies or they need to do additional labeling/serialization in order to comply with national legislation.

Visibility of inventory
Compared to other sectors, uptake of supply chain visibility technology has been slow within life sciences and healthcare. Companies adopting these new technologies have achieved inventory and cost reductions in both commercial and clinical supply chains.
SUB-SECTORS AND THEIR SUPPLY CHAIN DYNAMICS

Pharmaceuticals
The pharmaceutical supply chain is complex. The channel to market, traditionally via wholesalers is increasingly focused on moving closer to the patient. Direct to market initiatives are improving sales effectiveness and addressing counterfeiting. The increasing focus on temperature assurance and regulatory requirement to have data available, place additional demands on the supply chain.

Medical Devices
Diverse products ranging from implants to capital equipment, consumables to diagnostics have specific supply chain needs. Manufacturers operating across multiple segments have different requirements for each supply chain, adding to complexity.

Hospitals & Health Services
With 80% of global healthcare costs in services (rather than products) improving hospital supply chains (public and private) is a key driver for overall healthcare expenditure. Examples include traffic around inner-city sites which has significant logistical impact, the high cost of internal space within hospitals and poor design for efficient logistics. Large numbers of discrete items means tracking of inventory is complex, in many cases with limited systems.

Clinical Trials
Clinical Trials timelines are tight and achieving them is crucial to meeting patient recruitment targets. DHL’s experience is that 30% of trials are chilled, 70% include monitoring and most are global or regional creating additional challenges. Visibility of inventory through the supply chain, including status and condition, has the potential to improve decision making and reduce costs.

INSTRUMENTS & MEDICAL DEVICES
LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY
HOSPITALS & HEALTH SERVICES
PHARMACEUTICALS
CLINICAL TRIALS

With 80% of global healthcare costs in services (rather than products) improving hospital supply chains (public and private) is a key driver for overall healthcare expenditure. Examples include traffic around inner-city sites which has significant logistical impact, the high cost of internal space within hospitals and poor design for efficient logistics. Large numbers of discrete items means tracking of inventory is complex, in many cases with limited systems.
OUR SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTION

We provide unrivalled heritage and capability in compliant, specialist supply chain solutions to the global healthcare industry.

Within our life sciences and healthcare offering we have dedicated teams who specialize within the following areas: Pharmaceutical, Medical Devices, Hospitals & Health Services, and Clinical Trials.

Our extensive experience of supplying logistical solutions to the life sciences and healthcare sector has enabled us to develop specific expertise in the following areas: Vaccines, Generic Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology Products, Over The Counter (OTC) Medication, and Animal Health. For each of these areas we have experts working with our customers to optimize their supply chains.

We adopt a three stage process to provide customers with sustainable supply chain solutions.

1. Research into the specific challenges within the customer’s supply chain, be they acquisition, space constraint or strict temperature requirements.

2. Network and service design to deliver the right network for the current and projected business and specific requirements such as late stage customization or development of new services.

3. Implementation of the business and on-going operational management including improvement processes. This has proven to deliver real benefits to customers in national, regional and global supply chains.

Pharmaceutical
We provide complete supply chain solutions to pharmaceutical customers, from strategic services such as consultation and network design, to warehousing and transportation. DHL is providing additional services to pharmaceutical customers including manufacturing, packaging, product customization, direct delivery and cash collection. Our broad reach allows us to help customers to enter new markets and have the confidence that quality assurance and regulatory requirements will not be compromised.

Within this business unit, specialist teams offer specialist solutions. We have a deep experience of products that are more challenging to distribute such as vaccines and biologics, and we are able to meet the challenges of seasonal supply, pandemic planning and temperature monitoring across the globe. We can also assist generics manufacturers at key times, such as product launch.

Medical Devices
We are able to support medical devices manufacturers in the strategic design of their supply chain with services such as consultancy, network design and operating as a Lead Logistics Provider to deliver transformational improvements. We provide our customers with a comprehensive suite of capabilities to support the needs of their customers across both mature and emerging markets. These range from multi-market (regional) warehousing and manufacturing / late stage customization to inventory.
management and assurance of supply for loan kits, instruments and high value capital items.

We understand and support the logistical requirements of a diverse range of products, from implantable devices to diagnostic agents. We also offer additional services such as direct to patient delivery and reverse logistics to handle returns as required.

**Hospitals & Health Services**
We have provided logistics services to hospitals and health services for over 10 years, and manage the largest healthcare supply chain contract in the world, worth over €1.5bn annually. We support health services and hospitals in the strategic design of their supply chain with services such as consultancy, storage and inbound area redesign and operating as a Lead Logistics Provider (managing a range of providers) to deliver transformational improvements. In terms of delivery, we offer a range of services from warehousing (through off site consolidation) and cross docking to on site logistics and procurement, as well as more specialist offerings such as patient transport and inventory / materials management. We are committed to helping healthcare providers get maximum efficiency from their supply chain, and we are continually developing new services and capabilities.

**Clinical Trials**
DHL is the only third party logistics company providing integrated solutions in the clinical trials sector and has over 15 years’ experience in the area. Our offering is supported by 20 specialist clinical trials depots providing distribution to over 80 countries, as well as a community of over 100 global experts in clinical trials logistics.

We understand the requirements of the clinical trial supply chain with its strict regulatory environment, demanding temperature controls and requirements for the highest standards of quality, visibility and security. We have delivered substantial reductions in distribution costs and inventory to our clinical trials customers through the implementation of supply chain visibility tools combined with network optimization. We also have an improvement focus which means we are continually looking to new ways to maximize efficiencies.

Our extensive reach and depth of expertise allows us to help our customers to access new markets, increase speed to market, increase supply chain visibility and reduce costs, while maintaining quality and regulatory compliance.
The right prescription for your supply chain

We have been at the forefront of innovative supply chain solutions for the life sciences and healthcare industries for 20 years. Over this time we have developed our experience, capabilities, products and global footprint with a product range to meet the requirements of the industry.

Global footprint and industry expertise
With over 120 sites in 40 countries and 4,500 dedicated healthcare staff, serving 250 life sciences and healthcare customers worldwide, we're always there to offer a safe pair of hands. We have the scale and experience to implement healthcare logistics solutions across the world.

Our unrivalled global capability and experience in emerging markets help you to access new growth opportunities and conduct effective operations. With DPDHL group operations in over 220 countries and territories, combined with our financial strength, we have the flexibility to scale up or down to meet requirements.

Commitment to excellence
Process Improvement is key to our operations. Through a structured and systematic approach the DHL DMAIC process (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve and Control), which uses Six Sigma and Lean methodologies, we continuously improve standards. Our relentless pursuit of excellence gives you a real and sustained competitive advantage.

Quality and regulatory compliance
With our Global Quality Assurance group of over 100 individuals driving operational consistency and governance we're always up to date with the latest changes in local and international regulations. Our global network provides highly controlled environments and we ensure full GxP (Good Practice) compliance from origin to destination. This is underpinned by "DHL's LSH Rules and Guidelines" a compilation of worldwide regulations and practices that is the basis of our operations.

Cold chain and temperature assurance
We store and transport medical and pharmaceutical supplies at temperatures that include deep frozen, chilled and controlled ambient. We understand that replacing even one case of critical products is no easy task. That is why we've developed disciplined temperature controlled procedures to protect these valuable items; Packaging and shipment preparation areas are within controlled environments and we use innovative packaging materials to ensure temperatures are maintained throughout the chain of custody.

Health, safety and security
We help you achieve high standards on health, safety and security through extensive training and timely monitoring. We offer consulting on global safety regulations and conduct regular inspections and process audits of our facilities.
SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS FOR LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

The new industrial supply chain revolution sees traditional supply chains becoming customer centric demand chains, and companies need to transform accordingly.

There are a number of issues associated with transforming to a customer centric demand chain, including, knowing where to strategically position supply chain assets, changes in consumer consumption demands, accelerating technological changes and a lack of supply chain visibility.

This all has to be managed within an environment of volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity.

RESPONDING TO YOUR CHALLENGES
These challenges require a new way of thinking. As your challenges continue to evolve so does your need to evaluate and assess the suitability of your supply chain; are you keeping up with your customer’s demands?

We believe increased visibility and standardization based on a ‘plug-and-play’ supply chain allows you to face these challenges with the right level of agility.

With this in mind, we provide a portfolio of solutions that can be easily implemented and build upon our logistics expertise and global reach.

We create competitive advantage by delivering exceptional operational service and innovative solutions across the entire supply chain. From the initial consultancy and design to warehousing, final distribution and reverse logistics, we address your unique challenges with modular solutions which are localized to suit your specific market requirements.

ENHANCE SUPPLY CHAIN EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES
Whichever solutions you trust us to provide for you, you can be sure that we have the capability and expertise to deliver the business results that you wish to achieve. Our highly skilled logistics engineers work with you to provide competitive advantage, allowing you to focus on your core business.

GLOBAL REACH AND SPEED TO MARKET
To meet your global ambitions a logistics provider can help you gain access to new markets. A provider can ensure an efficient set up of solutions making sure you receive the same level of high operations quality no matter which geography you operate in.

OPTIMIZING COSTS AND LOGISTICS CONTROL
You can trust us to manage any aspect of your logistics business. Whether you are looking for a one stop shop, or a provider who can meet your specialist, niche requirement; all our solutions aim to improve the visibility and control of your supply chain.
DHL SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS

Transport Solutions
Helps your business maintain high levels of service and reliability, and gain full visibility into product movements. At the same time, we reduce your transportation costs. Our team will put together the ideal combination of systems, carriers and resources to meet your specific needs.

- DHL Managed Transport and Brokerage
- DHL Inbound Transport Operations
- DHL Outbound Transport Operations

Warehousing Solutions
Improve inventory efficiency and accelerate your response to changing customer demand. Our experts design, implement, and operate flexible warehousing and distribution solutions tailored to your business needs. They analyze every point in your supply chain to determine the optimal solution.

- DHL Warehousing
- DHL Real Estate Solutions

Management Services
Gives you the confidence that each of the outsourced elements will be handled by true specialists. Consulting and management services are available as stand-alone offerings or as add-ons to our transport or warehousing solutions. Whatever you outsource, your business will benefit from DHL’s global strengths and best practices.

- DHL Logistics Consulting
- DHL Procurement Services
- DHL Recall Services
- DHL Business Support Center

Integrated Solutions
Help you extend efficiency, flexibility, and cost benefits to your entire end-to-end supply chain. By drawing all necessary (transport, warehousing and management) services together into a complete, optimized package, your supply chain operations are simplified and your business becomes stronger and more efficient.

- DHL Lead Logistics Partner
- DHL Inbound to Manufacturing
- DHL Service Logistics
- DHL Envirosolutions
- DHL HealthConnect
- DHL Clinical Trials
- DHL Fulfillment

Additional Services
Include more than 250 service options that, when combined with our solution offerings, provide you with the flexibility to address your individual logistics needs.

- DHL Packaging Services
- DHL Pre-Sales Services
The right prescription for your supply chain

Transportation services
From needles and bandages to MRI scanners we have the specialist skills to move your products ensuring visibility and product integrity in cold chain and international temperature assured freight.

Serialization, Postponement and Packing Services
We operate a network of GMP facilities worldwide providing a range of assembly based services. This allows responsiveness to country and customer demands and product evolution during the lifecycle. Assembly, packaging services and kitting ensures that products have the correct specification for the market and enables postponement or late customization. In addition we undertake customer specific presentations, serialization or labeling as well as the assembly of kits comprising pharmaceutical, medical devices and consumables.

Rework Services
Rework enables reconfiguration to meet changing requirements, such as content changes to leaflets, additional labelling (such as 2D bar-coding to support e-pedigree) and re-labeling for products being redeployed to different markets based upon changing demands.

Home Healthcare
We provide direct to patient services based on core logistics activities plus kitting, patient and equipment management. The service is customized to meet the requirements of terminal, long term, recovery and episode care.

Order to Cash
Enables direct to market channels and new market entry, to improve sales effectiveness and build closer relationships with customers and patients. Our solution involves order management, fulfillment and receivables through an integrated IT solution and customer service centers.

Clinical Trials
We manage the outbound distribution of clinical supplies and the inbound flows of returns, including network design, study management and managed transport. Our global network solution of 20 depots supports global / regional outsourcing.

Pandemic
We provide core logistics processes supported by specialist activities, enabling governments and manufacturers to minimize the impact of a pandemic through availability of standby resources and rapid deployment.

Multi-Market Hubs
We operate multi-market hubs in a range of geographies linking warehousing capabilities with managed transportation, import / export expertise, documentation preparation and value added services (in particular assembly and late customization / postponement). This enables regional distribution of pharmaceuticals and medical devices in parts of EMEA, APAC and the Americas. With this model we distribute ethical pharmaceuticals, biotechnology products, generic medicines, investigational products / clinical trials materials and medical devices – some hubs situated within free trade zones or with bonded areas to delay tax and duty payments.
**Labor management**

Labor represents 50% to 60% of typical distribution costs. DHL Supply Chain’s labor solutions help you manage these costs and improve the capabilities of your human capital. Our approach combines labor-management technology, engineered productivity standards, comprehensive operating practices and performance recognition while our scale and expertise allows us to bring qualified and experienced life sciences resources to the task just when you need them most.

**IT management**

Whether you require a new solution or integration into your existing system, we design, implement and validate global IT and project management solutions to match your needs and bring consistent, high-quality, cost-effective IT services to your supply chain. Through experience of working with major systems (Oracle, Red Prairie, SAP, Manhattan etc.), we understand how to optimize IT solutions and consistently review and deploy new capabilities as they come on to market.

**Real estate management**

A well-executed real estate strategy can make significant contribution towards meeting your operational requirements and financial budget. Real estate plays a vital role in supply chain strategies, as nearly every warehousing or distribution center decision features a real estate component. Whatever and wherever your market, we bundle real estate and logistics services to offer a single-sourced comprehensive solution that reduces end-to-end supply chain cost, minimizes risks and improves efficiency.
UNRIVALLED HERITAGE AND EXPERTISE

We’ll continue to listen to your needs and innovate with new markets and products to ensure you have a sustainable supply chain for the future.

Our track record and dedicated industry experts give DHL an unrivalled pedigree across the life sciences and healthcare industries, helping us to provide specialist, high quality solutions whatever your business.

We see each industry sectors with its own unique challenges. This drives us to listen when developing solutions, but also enables us to innovate by transferring expertise and experience from other sectors. As a global business we see growth in the developing markets of BRICM and across Asia and LATAM as well as production shifts and increased challenges of traceability (through e-pedigree), security and temperature.

Finally we see a considerable challenge with expiring patents and the need to innovate for ethical pharma, new channels with direct to pharmacy models, the move towards personalized medicine as well as continued consolidation in the industry and an increased focus on operational efficiency and effectiveness within health services and hospitals.

Our business approach is straightforward; we spend time understanding your requirements through discussion. We then use our life sciences and healthcare expertise to ensure that we address all of your business challenges, critical success factors and deliverables to develop the right solution for you. Once agreed, we implement this using our project management process (DePICT), run the operations using our quality rules and guidelines, process flows and procedures underpinned by our IT systems and drive improvement through our DMAIC processes.

In summary, we offer the expertise to understand your business and the capabilities to work with you to develop, and implement, the solutions which will deliver real benefits. We have an extensive range of products and capabilities which can be scaled and replicated to meet your needs.

We have an unparalleled infrastructure of accredited facilities as well as alignment across the other DHL business units (Freight, Global Forwarding, Global Mail and Express) to enable us to deliver integrated solutions. This is underpinned by validated systems, processes, implementation experience and our quality framework to ensure success.
For further information

Contact our supply chain experts here

Or visit our website

Twitter LinkedIn

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