

**Make
our network
yours!**

Holland International Distribution Council (HIDC) is a non-profit public-private organization representing the logistics sector in the Netherlands. Services provided by HIDC are free of charge to international companies.

We understand your business, know about logistics and legal and financial regulations and provide unbiased personalized advice on European supply chain structuring and suitable logistics partners in our network for your activities.



NDL/HIDC



For more information, see our website www.hidc.nl
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Chemicals

The global chemical industry is shifting. While growth in Europe remains flat, production of chemicals is expanding in the Middle East and emerging markets. As a result, more imported products are being transported from suppliers via European sea ports to the main European chemical production clusters and final customers.

In addition to strict safety regulations and sustainability requirements, the chemical supply chain in Europe has become more extended (longer lead times for inbound materials) and more complex (in planning and coordination).

Would you like to optimize your European supply chain? The Netherlands is a logical choice, with its strategic location in Northwest Europe, the gateway to one of the largest chemical production clusters in the world and well-connected to the industrial heart of Europe.

Teaming up with one of the Dutch specialized logistic service providers for value-added support for your product can also help you accommodate increases in customer demand.

Trending ...

- Global competition: Middle East and USA (shale gas) are both increasing production, EU production growth stabilizes.
- New chemical clusters are emerging in China and India.
- Strategic partnerships or mergers and acquisitions lead to consolidation in the industry.
- Tightening sustainability requirements and security procedures will raise logistics costs and require new supply chain models.
- Use of bio-resources is on the agenda of chemical companies but is not yet a cost-effective option.
- Customer demands are rising continuously (more functionality and add-on services), leading to substantial investments in product improvements.

Facts and figures

- The EU is the world's leading exporter of chemicals (42.5% of global exports) and the second-largest importer after Asia (35.3%).
- More than half of EU chemicals sales concern petrochemicals and specialty chemicals (inks, paint, crop protection).
- The Netherlands is the 3rd largest chemicals market in the EU (after Germany and France) and the 2nd largest importer of chemicals for non-EU countries.
- Chemicals have recently been identified by the Dutch government as a priority sector. The aim is to increase productivity while reducing the environmental footprint.
- The Netherlands is the home base of 19 of the top 25 leading chemical companies, such as Shell, Akzo Nobel, DSM, SABIC Europe and Dow Chemical.
- The Dutch chemicals sector has an annual turnover of €57 billion and employs 57,000 people (2015).
- The Netherlands delivers a high standard of research and expertise in industrial bio-technology, high performance materials and fine chemicals.
- The Antwerp-Rotterdam-Amsterdam cluster (ARA) is the gateway to Europe and ranks 3rd as a global chemical production cluster.

Your benefits in the Netherlands

- The majority of European chemical and industrial clusters are within a 500 km radius.
- Mainport Rotterdam is one of the world's largest petrochemical hubs and the largest chemical port for Germany.
- Extensive infrastructure, in addition to the mainports, including pipelines and multimodal hinterland connections.
- Regional clusters and public-private partnerships in innovation and production (i.e., Port of Moerdijk, Chemport Delfzijl, Chemelot Limburg).
- Sophisticated logistic service providers specialized in chemicals (packaging, distribution) and current European legislation.
- Chemical production companies and their logistic service providers have teamed up to develop Cross Chain Control Centers (4C).
- Efficient and cost-effective customs: flexible approach, facilitating trade, highly digitized.
- VAT deferment and bonded warehousing.
- Highly educated, multi-lingual and flexible workforce.