

# Emergence of Humanitarian Logistics Profession

## Lessons and Context

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# Business Transformation around Supply Chain

Business impact, globalisation and deregulation opened the door, but the keys were:

Professionalism  
and  
Technology

The same transformation is happening in the humanitarian sector.

# Basis for the Supply Chain Profession

- Association
  - Community
  - Events
- Education
  - Degree
  - Certification
- Innovation
  - Concepts
  - Technologies
- Formalization
  - Standards
  - Technologies

foundation

growth

scale

# Supply Chain Profession – generally

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- Association

- Broad: Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP), Supply Chain Council (SCC), European Logistics Association (federation of 30 national organizations)
- Specific: Cool Chain Association, Procurement and Supply Chain Benchmarking Association, Supply Chain and Logistics Association of Australia



- Education

- Degree: new undergrad & MS/Meng programs, MBA focus area
- Certification: Association for Operations Management (APICS), Institute for Supply Management (ISM), Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC), American Society of Transportation and Logistics (AST&L), Warehousing Education and Research Council (WERC)... recently combined into the Supply Chain and Logistics Certification Network

- Innovation

- Concepts: academic research agenda, industry partnerships
- Technologies: ERP & SCM software bubble, internet, GPS, etc.



- Formalization

- Standards: ISO, GS1, SCOR, Sarbanes-Oxley,
- Technologies: EDI, RosettaNet, consolidation of ERP/SCM systems



# Emergence of the Humanitarian Logistics Profession

- Association
- Education
  - Certification
  - Degree
- Innovation
- Formalization

External Context

# Formation

At the 2005 Humanitarian Logistics Conference in Geneva, Switzerland – sponsored by Fritz Institute – participants created and signed the Marco Polo Declaration forming a professional humanitarian logistics association.

Fritz Institute provided initial support and formed a steering committee. The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in the UK (CILT) provided the association with a temporary home.



## THE MARCO POLO

### BOTH CLASSY AND LAID-BACK

The Marco Polo Bar offers a perfect setting for a relaxing break with a large choice of drinks and light refreshments all day.

Whether it be for a morning coffee break or evening aperitif, everybody meets in this elegant and convivial setting at some time or another.

## *Marco Polo Declaration*

*We the undersigned commit to establish an association of humanitarian logistics professionals. As the founding members, we wish to enhance the level of support provided to humanitarian programmes in order to improve the lives of beneficiaries by:*

- 1. Collaborating and communicating effectively with each other*
- 2. Sharing knowledge, best practice and experiences*
- 3. Improving skills and training opportunities*
- 4. Seeking efficiency and effectiveness in our operations*
- 5. Improving accountability and transparency*
- 6. Leveraging public-private partnership*
- 7. Working with and extracting the best learning from academia*
- 8. Soliciting donor support for effective logistics operations*
- 9. Increasing the profile and promoting awareness of the value of humanitarian logistics*
- 10. Supporting our fellow professionals in the field*
- 11. Setting common standards*
- 12. Promoting appropriate use of new technology and information systems*
- 13. Fostering innovation in humanitarian logistics practices*
- 14. Respecting humanitarian principles*
- 15. Training all resources (national and international)*

*The founding members also wish to strongly emphasize the key role of field logistics practitioners in the successful planning and provision of humanitarian relief and programming.*



# Association

Mission — Humanitarian Log X

www.humanitarianlogistics.org/about-hla/what-is-hla/mission

site map accessibility contact

## Humanitarian Logistics Association

HOME EDUCATION & TRAINING NEWS EVENTS USER SUPPORT LOG FORUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AFRICA

log in

You Are Here: Home → About HLA → About HLA → Mission

### NAVIGATION

- About HLA
- Mission
- How ?
- Who ?

### Mission

**Objective:**

*To form an association of logistics professionals committed to increase humanitarian logistics effectiveness and improve lives and dignity of beneficiaries by creating opportunities for dialogue and cooperative relationships with its members and partners.*

**Mission:**

*To build a community of practice for advancing the humanitarian logistics profession by promoting cross organizational learning and collaboration.*

### SEARCH

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### LOGISTICS BLOG

- Rehabilitation of the Mogadishu Port: Despite the challenges, much has been achieved  
Dec 16, 2010
- WFP Aviation Safety Brings Training to Russian Operators  
Dec 13, 2010
- Transporting Hope: WFP Logistics in the Fight Against AIDS  
Dec 06, 2010
- Port Captain Finally Experiences Last Leg of Delivery, Meets Beneficiaries  
Nov 23, 2010

More...

Related content

- How ?

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

# Large Professional Events

- HLA Events
  - The Humanitarian Logistics Summit 2011
  - General Assembly 2010
  - Annual Conference 2010
- Health and Humanitarian Logistics Conference
  - Annually from 2009-2011
  - Hosted by Georgia Tech
- Humanitarian Logistics Conference
  - Annually from 2003-2008
  - Hosted by Fritz Institute



# Initial Certification

- Certification in Humanitarian Logistics (CHL)
  - Designed by an advisory committee from ICRC, Oxfam GB, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP
  - Sponsored by Fritz Institute (with funding from USAID, ECHO, DFID)
  - Awarded by Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport-UK (CILT-UK)
  - Delivered by Logistics Learning Alliance (LLA)
  - Audience: working professionals in the field, operational decisions
  - Content: Tutor supported self study, 64 tasks sent by email each taking 4 hours, case study context
  - September 2006 launch
  - May 2011: 1,000 students enrolled



# Additional Certification

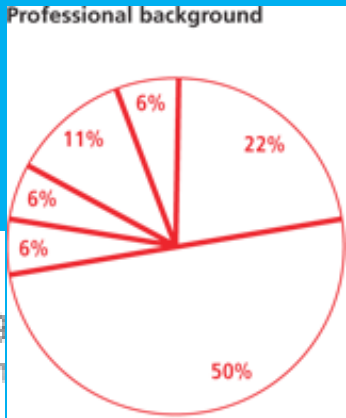
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- Certification in Humanitarian Supply Chain Management (CHSCM)
  - Same partners as CHL
  - Audience: senior logisticians and logistics managers, tactical decisions
  - Content: Tutor supported self study, 10 tasks sent by email each taking about 30 hours
  - Launched in May 2008
- Certification in Humanitarian Medical Logistics Practices (MedLog)
  - Same partners as CHL
  - Audience: logisticians needing to know the specialized requirements for medical items
  - Content: Tutor supported self study, 11 tasks sent by email each taking 4-5 hours
  - Launched in September 2009

# Degree Example

- Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Logistics and Management (MAS HLM)
  - Launched in 2009 at the University of Lugano, Switzerland
  - Part-time: classes meet for 2 weeks every 2 months over a 22 month period
  - Tuition: CHF 16,500 (humanitarian sector), CHF 25,000 (corporate sector)

Average age: 36  
 Average years of professional experience in the Humanitarian sector: 9  
 Gender diversity: 50% women, 50% men  
 Countries of provenience: Denmark, Germany, Holland, Honduras, India, Italy, Kenya, Malawi, Portugal, Russia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Switzerland, UK, Zimbabwe.



22% Local NGOs
6% WFP
17% UNHCR
6% Tearfund
11% WVI
6% IFRC
6% UNFPA
17% Corporate
6% MSF
6% OSCE

Source: <http://www.mashlm.usi.ch/>

# Coursework Examples

- Semester: MIT, MIT-Zaragoza, HANKEN, Univ. of Washington, Georgia Tech
- Short: Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation (credit at Fordham Univ.), HANKEN (MSc and PhD)
- Various certificate courses: INSEAD, Lugano, etc.



# ESD.934 Humanitarian Logistics (6 units)

Spring 2011 (1 Feb – 29 Mar)

## Student interest across disciplines

Over 40 students from the following schools:

- MIT School of Engineering
- MIT Sloan School of Management
- MIT School of Architecture and Planning
- Harvard Business School
- Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
- Harvard Kennedy School of Government
- Harvard School of Public Health
- Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
- Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science & Policy
- Tufts Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

## Guest speakers

Classroom contributions from:

- Professor, Tufts University
- Assoc. Dir. of Programs, Red Cross/Crescent Climate Center
- Head of Logistics and Supply, Oxfam GB
- Deputy VP, Field Operations, International Rescue Committee

## Projects all from the Haiti earthquake

- **Demand Characterization:** Analyzing data from an extensive needs assessment survey from March-July.
- **Distribution Management:** Analyzing detailed data from the distribution of shelter and non-food items.
- **PaP Airport Effectiveness:** Analyzing data from both the scheduling team and the airport operations team to assess utilization of this critical resource.
- **Crowdsourcing:** Analyzing over 20,000 text messages sent from citizens of Haiti.
- **Building Response Capacity:** Designing a potential “emergency operations center” consisting of office space, communications infrastructure, housing units and a big warehouse.

# Innovation Examples

- Increasing activity
  - Internal efforts (Logistics Development Unit at WFP/Simulation Training)
  - Partnership engagements between humanitarian sector and academia/industry (TNT/WFP and UPS/UNICEF)
  - Social media, entrepreneurs
  - Proprietary and open source software development (RapidSMS)
- Formal outlets for sharing ideas
  - First issue this week for the *Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management (JHLSCM)*
  - Special issues of other academic journals, interest groups in academic associations
  - Social entrepreneurship competitions

# Thank You