

Port and logistics at the Lower Elbe.

Hamburg and the Lower Elbe region form the transport hub in Northern Europe. The companies in the metropolitan region offer logistic services of all kinds. Multinational companies control their global logistics networks from here.

The ports and logistics locations of the Lower Elbe region are Hamburg, Brunsbüttel, Cuxhaven, Glückstadt and Stade. Their size and service offerings are varied. Together, they form the five ports in Germany's largest port and logistics region. The Lower Elbe ports take over the important function being a European hub for cargo distribution, above all into the Baltic Sea region. The interests of this port and economic region are combined under the joint logo ELBESEAPORTS. The cooperation with the Hafen Hamburg Marketing e.V. in joint site marketing is a great benefit for ELBESEAPORTS.

The well-developed freeway system connects the port of Hamburg and the region's business locations with Europe's metropolitan areas. The major road construction projects in the region, such as the intended continuation of the A20 coastal freeway to the A26 junction with a constructed Elbe crossing near Glückstadt, the construction of the A26 East as the cross-port route from the A7 to the A1, as well as the expansion of the B5 will make the region even more attractive.

Hamburg is Europe's largest hub for rail freight transport, with Europe's largest shunting yard in Maschen. The Hamburg airport forms part of the backbone of the logistics industry with its highly efficient cargo logistics. And last, but not least, Hamburg is further connected to the German inland waterway network through the Elbe and the Elbe side canal. The Kiel Canal, the most frequented man-made waterway in the world, links it to the Baltic Sea.

Hamburg is seat of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ISGH). The Hamburg Chamber of Commerce International Logistics Court of Arbitration, recognized worldwide, ensures speedy and cost-efficient dispute settlement procedures and arbitration between or with companies in the logistics sector. Banks and insurance companies are also present at the Hamburg financial center and offer a wide range of logistics expertise, especially with regard to cargo insurance, foreign trade financing as well as structuring asset investments in the transport sector.

The range of basic and continued training and research facilities on the logistics sector is broad and diverse. The following Internet platform offers a comprehensive overview: <http://www.logistik-lernen-hamburg.de/>.

The logistics sector special interest groups primarily include the logistics initiatives in the states of Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony. The Lower Elbe region business development agencies assume an important function in the business networking. A list of existing initiatives, networks and cluster initiatives of the Hamburg metropolitan area can be found at:

<http://metropolregion.hamburg.de/contentblob/4314694/data/akteure-hafen-logistik.pdf>.