

# Essex – Great for Transport and Logistics

## Sector Highlights in Essex

- » **An established sector with more than 17,000 employees in over 1600 logistics businesses**
- » **Site of largest combined deep sea container and business and logistics park project in Europe**
- » **Home to three international seaports**
- » **Home to the UK's 2nd largest airport for freight and 3rd largest for passenger travel**
- » **Excellent road and rail interchanges**
- » **Easy access to national motorway network**
- » **Strategically located warehousing and office accommodation**
- » **Site of the UK's first National Skills Academy for Logistics**

Essex is an inspired choice for any business, offering a compelling mix of location, energetic business environment and quality of life. Essex has more than 70,000 businesses across a wide spectrum including large and small, successful start-ups, iconic brands, globally known names, and companies which have moved to Essex as a platform for growth, as well as having an outstanding record for technological innovation and manufacturing world-leading products.

Essex is a platform for doing business on a local, national or global scale. As well as being adjacent to the world financial city of London, Essex is

extremely well connected through its road and rail links to other parts of the UK and to continental Europe, as well as offering access to global markets via its international ports and airports.

### A great location for business

For **logistics companies**, the county's skills, rail, sea and road infrastructure and proximity to London and Europe make Essex an ideal base for a warehousing operation or distribution depot, head office or branch office, starting a new business or relocating a growing company.

**INVEST**  
Essex

*"Our close proximity to London allows us to deal with many international businesses and organisations who recognise the benefits of our strategic location in Essex. The building of the new London Gateway container port will only strengthen this"*  
Paul Stone, HR Director, Uniserve Group



Essex County Council

# Business Environment

## Strengths of the Transport and Logistics sector in Essex

More than 1600 port and logistics companies are based in Essex, more than any other county in the East of England or in the counties surrounding London. Thurrock, with the Port of Tilbury, provides the greatest concentration of logistics operations supporting London as a world city.

The availability of a large pool of skilled labour, the development of a National Skills Academy for Logistics and massive infrastructure investment is making the county even more attractive to logistics companies who recognise the benefits of easy access to two seaports, an international airport and the national motorway network.

*“We carry a large amount of freight to the rest of the world, and we operate our own daily services into Europe”*

David Bush, Supply Chain Coordinator,  
Uniserve Group

### Home to world-class companies:

**Swissport International Ltd** – Is one of the worlds top providers of ground services to the aviation industry. It employs more than 1,000 people at London Stansted Airport providing a complete package of ground handling solutions to airlines such as Ryanair, Monarch Airlines, Thomson Airways and Air Malta. Its services include, load control and communications, check-in and baggage services, aircraft servicing and ramp and cargo handling.

**DSV** – a global company and one of the fastest-growing transport organisations in the UK. DSV offers a full range of road, air and sea services from its UK headquarters at Purfleet.

**EC Group** – one of the country's largest fulfilment houses providing a range of outsourced services that enable businesses to handle responses to their marketing and promotional campaigns.

**A wide range of Transport and logistic companies are also based in Essex, including:**

**Uniserve** – one of the premier import and export consolidators and master loaders in the world, offering specialist services across Europe, the Far East and North America.

**Tilbury Container Services** – is jointly owned by three of the largest port operators: DP World, Associated British Ports and Forth Ports.

# Skills and Labour Force

## Strengths of the Transport and Logistics sector in Essex

More than 17,000 employees work in the Transport and Logistics sector across a range of disciplines, including warehousing, transport, administration, call centres, technology and management.

Employers have a ready pool of talented and skilled labour able to respond to trends in demand, analyse and solve problems, able to handle early responsibility and make informed decisions as well as demonstrate skills in IT and engineering.

*"We are able to recruit the right people locally with a permanent staff and a pool of temporary workers to deal with seasonal peaks in workload"*

Chris Tillin, Business Development & Marketing Manager, EC Group



Universe, Tibury

### Labour costs

*The average salary for logistics staff is 12% lower than London and 1% lower than the national average for the sector*

# Research and Education

## Strengths of the Transport and Logistics sector in Essex

### Graduate and skills training

Students are graduating from the following courses qualified for roles in the Transport and Logistics sector

**Anglia Ruskin University** – The Chelmsford campus offers an MSc in International Logistics that develops logistics and supply chain professionals for management-level positions. The focus is on real issues in global supply chains and includes participation in a realistic supply chain simulation.

**National Logistics Skills Academy** – Opened in 2010, providing a focus for vocational education, skills development and training within logistics for young people and adults.

**South Essex College** – The Thurrock campus offers a wide range of logistics skills training including RTITB, NVQ and City & Guilds courses in subjects such as purchasing and supply management and driving goods vehicles, and fork lift trucks.

*"The National Skills Academy is an important development on the skills landscape for the whole of the logistics sector"*  
Perry Glading, Managing Director of the Port of Tilbury

South Essex College, Southend



High House Production Park, Purfleet



# Key Assets of the Sector

Strengths of the Transport and Logistics sector in Essex

## London Gateway Port

– will be the UK's first 21st Century major deep sea container port and Europe's largest logistics park. Situated on the north bank of the River Thames, London Gateway will provide unrivalled deep sea shipping access for the world's leading businesses to the largest consumer markets in the UK. The Port's location, with its superior operational systems and service, will ensure ships load and unload as fast as possible, making London Gateway a world class asset for the UK.

## The Port of Tilbury – is

the largest deep water port on the River Thames and UK's number one port for the importation of forest products, the third largest UK container port and the UK's largest grain terminal. The port provides high levels of handling and logistic-related services to customers who are looking for solutions to move goods cost effectively and efficiently providing fast, modern distribution services for the benefit of the south-east of England.

## Harwich International

**Port** – one of the UK's leading multi-purpose freight and passenger ports with excellent road and rail links to the midlands, London and the south-east. Ideally located for North Sea freight and passenger traffic to and from Scandinavia and the Benelux countries, offering first class ro-ro, ferry, container and bulk operations.

## PortCentrics, London

**Gateway** will be the ultimate in PortCentrics combining the port of entry with warehouse, distribution, assembly and manufacturing buildings, with multimodal transport in order to maximise efficiencies and minimise the costs of the supply chain from "origin to destination". It is about more effective supply-chain management by eliminating the unnecessary handling and movement of goods. This improves time to market, reduced supply-chain costs and increased efficiencies.

*"Large warehousing becomes more expensive the closer it is to London. Grays gives us the space we need at reasonable rates and, because it's so close to the motorway network, it is a cost effective site"*

Chris Tillin, Business Development & Marketing Manager, EC Group



### **London Stansted Airport**

is the UK's third busiest airport and a major passenger terminal and freight handler. Over 4.5 million business passengers travel through Stansted every year and Stansted's cargo business is estimated to be over £8 billion a year. Stansted has more scheduled routes to Europe than any other airport in the world. 23 airlines fly from Stansted to 150 destinations in 34 countries worldwide including south-east Asia and Australia.

### **London Southend**

**airport** – already a long established “home base” to a wide range of aviation companies, airlines and operators, with more than 1300 people employed across the airport. The airport, now part of the Stobart Group, is set to significantly expand its facilities and reach.

### **Stratford Channel Tunnel**

**rail link** – Stratford International Station, adjacent to the London 2012 Olympic Village, opened in 2009 as part of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link, providing high-speed rail services to France and Belgium.



# Location

## Strengths of the Transport and Logistics sector in Essex

Essex is superbly positioned for business. The county is strategically located in the south-east of England close to other vibrant economies such as London, one of the world's great financial centres, Cambridge, an international centre of research, and the dynamic growth markets of Europe.

Essex is a great place to live and work, with a huge choice of quality homes at reasonable prices, excellent schools and universities, first-class leisure facilities and an environment that gives the right work-life balance.

Essex has an excellent education system, with a number of outstanding schools regularly featuring in the top ten English state schools.

The quality of life in Essex is superb. The close proximity of central London, means you can enjoy the benefits of being close to a world-famous capital city while living and working in a county with fantastic leisure facilities and huge areas of unspoilt countryside.



Ancley End House, Saffron Walden



Southend Pier

*"Essex is so close to Europe, we can run full trailer and consolidated loads for other hauliers to the continent daily at competitive rates, and we can participate in joint ventures with European companies"*  
Paul Stone, Uniserve

# Logistics and Communications

## Strengths of the Transport and Logistics sector in Essex

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### High speed rail services

Essex has fast mainline rail links to London and the rest of the UK. The ports of Tilbury and Harwich are served by rail heads. Stratford International Station is part of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link, providing high-speed rail services to France and Belgium.

### Links to the national motorway network

Essex has over 7500 km of roads, with major trunk routes linking all parts of the county to the M11 and M25 motorways. The M11 gives fast access to London, Cambridge, the midlands and the north, while the M25 London orbital gives access to the national motorway network that reaches out to all parts of the UK, and across to Europe and the wider world.

### London Stansted Airport

London Stansted is the third busiest airport in the UK, serving 140 destinations across 30 countries. It is the UK's second largest airfreight terminal, with a worldwide reputation as a cargo hub carrying around 180,000 tonnes of freight a year.

### Port of Tilbury

London's main port with freeport status. It handles 80% of London container traffic and is the main UK port for paper and wood.

### Harwich International Port

One of the UK's leading multi-purpose seaports. The port has excellent road and rail links to the midlands, London and the south-east and is ideally located for North Sea freight traffic to and from Scandinavia and the Benelux countries.

### London Gateway Port

Construction has begun on the UK's newest deep sea container port and Europe's largest logistics park offering direct access to container port and ro-ro terminal, rail-connected facilities, and excellent road access to the motorway network.

*"The new A13 has improved road links to the rest of the UK, while a deep water jetty and train spur give us plenty of options for distribution to other UK plants, as well as European and international sites via the River Thames, motorways, Channel Tunnel and rail links"*

Oliver Rowe, Ford Public Affairs



# Support

## Maximise your competitive advantage

Essex could be the perfect place for your next move. We can help you get your business off to the best possible start, maximise your potential and take advantage of all the opportunities Essex can offer.

We can provide help to find you the right site and put you in touch with professionals and suppliers who can help you establish and grow your business.

### **Access to local knowledge and expertise**

We have experience of working with businesses of all sizes and have helped many companies to relocate to Essex. You can draw on our extensive local knowledge of the Essex business environment, markets and supply chain as well as our established contacts with all the regional and national bodies who support inward investment.

Our property database makes it easy to find the ideal location in offices, business parks, industrial units or retail centres.

We are committed to your success and we look forward to welcoming your business to Essex.

**INVEST Essex** is Essex County Council's Inward Investment Service, providing confidential advice and practical support to companies wanting to establish a presence or expand in the UK.

We promote Essex as an outstanding business destination and help existing and potential investors make the most of our strategic location, thriving business environment and quality of life.

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