

TYPES OF LOGISTICS

Logistics is the planning, implementation, and management of the movement and storage of goods, services, or information across the supply chain.

1 INBOUND LOGISTICS

Involves the transportation, storage, and delivery of goods coming into a business.

Key Activities:

- Purchasing
- Receiving
- Inspection
- Transportation
- Warehousing



Example: Raw materials delivered from suppliers to a factory.

2 OUTBOUND LOGISTICS

Focuses on the movement of finished goods from a company to customers.

Key Activities:

- Order processing
- Warehousing
- Packaging
- Transportation
- Delivery



Example: Shipping products from a warehouse to retailers or end users.

3 REVERSE LOGISTICS

Deals with the movement of goods backward in the supply chain.

Key Activities:

- Returns management
- Repair and refurbishment
- Recycling
- Reuse
- Disposal



Example: Product returns, recycling, repairs, or disposal.

4 THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS (3PL)

When a company outsources logistics operations to an external provider.

Key Services:

- Transportation
- Warehousing
- Order fulfillment
- Inventory management
- Distribution



Example: A company hires a 3PL provider to handle its storage and delivery operations.

5 FOURTH-PARTY LOGISTICS (4PL)

A higher level of outsourcing where a company hires a provider to manage the entire supply chain, including multiple 3PLs.

Key Responsibilities:

- Supply chain design
- 3PL management
- Integration of services
- End-to-end visibility
- Performance management



Example: A 4PL provider oversees all logistics partners and optimizes the entire supply chain.

6 PRODUCTION LOGISTICS

Handles the flow of materials and components within a manufacturing process.

Key Activities:

- Material planning
- Scheduling
- Internal transportation
- Work-in-progress control
- Line feeding



Example: Ensures that production lines run efficiently without delays.

7 DISTRIBUTION LOGISTICS

Focuses on storing and delivering products to customers efficiently.

Key Activities:

- Warehousing
- Inventory management
- Order fulfillment
- Transportation
- Last-mile delivery



Example: Managing warehouses and delivery networks to get products to customers on time.

8 MILITARY LOGISTICS

Involves the planning and execution of movement and supply of troops, equipment, and resources.

Key Activities:

- Troop movement
- Equipment supply
- Maintenance
- Medical supplies
- Strategic planning



Example: Supplying equipment and resources during defense operations and missions.

9 EMERGENCY (HUMANITARIAN) LOGISTICS

Supports disaster relief and crisis situations.

Key Activities:

- Needs assessment
- Procurement
- Transportation
- Warehousing
- Relief distribution



Example: Delivering food, medicine, and shelter after natural disasters.

10 GREEN LOGISTICS

Focuses on minimizing environmental impact.

Key Practices:

- Eco-friendly transportation
- Sustainable packaging
- Energy-efficient warehousing
- Waste reduction
- Recycling and reuse



Example: Using electric vehicles, recyclable packaging, and energy-efficient systems.