

Transport chain simulator®



Two learners are intently watching the monitor. It appears that the cargo that was ready to be shipped in Cape Town has not left by container ship. This is a bad situation, because the transport of the cooling container with fresh fruit cannot be delayed long without endangering the quality of the goods. Then it becomes clear that the load was not shipped because the transport data were not complete, which caused the customs documents to be delayed. This apparently small mishap has great consequences. Will the client have enough confidence in the company for the transport of another load? This will certainly result in a heated discussion!

The STC-Group itself has developed the chain simulator®, which is unequalled in the world. The simulation program is particularly suitable for training in logistic

processes in the transport sector. The transport chains are simulated in a large room with various workstations. Communication during this simulation occurs by means of e-mail, telephone, video conference and fax. Each station represents an office. In successive simulations, the learner will perform the various functions in the logistic process. In this way, he gains an insight into the tasks of the previous and following participants in the logistic process and becomes more aware of the whole chain.

Role

Every learner functions as a link in the transport chain. Each link is an industry or a division of an industry that is physically involved in the completion of the flow of goods, for instance a distribution centre. A lorry delivers a load, which is unloaded from the trailer and distributed among other lorries to be taken to the final destination.



Dangerous goods labels are printed and attached to the document envelopes. The drivers are provided with the correct instructions and papers. Administrative and process actions involved in this transaction, including the completion of internal documentation for invoicing, are practised in this way.

Weak link

The great advantage of working with the simulator is that the expertise of the learner is enhanced during the simulation. He gets to know the effects of other factors in the chain on his own work and vice versa. In this way, the learner becomes aware much sooner of his own place in the chain and of the importance of functioning efficiently and streamlined. A driver playing the role of distributor, for instance, experiences what the consequences are for the distributor when the lorry comes in late or when papers are not in order. Thus, the simulation contributes to greater understanding of the whole chain. Another advantage of the simulator is that no risks are involved in the exercises. Training is done safely without mistakes causing damage to goods. It also makes it possible to experiment. Mistakes that are made or problems encountered are projected on a large screen and discussed by the learners. It is also possible to practise management techniques and to view the video records afterwards and comment on them. Eventually, the simulations lead to complete insight in the activities of the various players in the transport chain. Through this knowledge, better understanding is obtained for the problems that other players in the chain may have. The best possible performing of one's own task can prevent these problems and related financial loss.

Tailor-made

As the STC-Group itself has developed the software, the chains can be made tailor-made without any problem. Every discipline involving a chain of actions can be included. Simulations have been used for training the Army in which the logistic process of provisioning was practised.

Further information

For further information about this and other simulators, you can contact STC B.V. STC B.V. is a subsidiary division of the STC-Group and responsible for non-subsidised activities. STC B.V. provides standard courses as well as courses that are tailor-made for your industry. Included in STC B.V. are the contract education division of the Shipping and Transport College, Maritime Simulation Rotterdam B.V. (MSR), Dynamar Consultancy B.V. and the International Maritime Transport Academy (IMTA).

STC B.V. is situated at the main location of the STC-Group:
Lloydstraat 300, 3024 EA Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
Telephone: +31 10 44 86 000. E-mail: info.co@stc-r.nl