



AVIATION FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS

East Midlands Airport handles more cargo aircraft than any other UK airport. The airport is part of the UK's logistics 'golden triangle', a transport hub bordered by the M1, M42 and M6 motorways. 80% of the population are within a four-hour drive time of this area.

'Freight' describes any goods moved in bulk by air, rail, road or sea. Goods could be medical supplies, building materials, clothes, food, petrol or chemicals. East Midlands Airport transports everything from packages for next day delivery to Formula One cars and race horses.

'Logistics' is organising transport for goods. To be profitable, businesses need to move goods as efficiently and logically as possible.

There are jobs at all levels in Logistics. It's a great industry if you are looking for opportunities to progress from entry level jobs to management. And it's an exciting time to explore opportunities as the airport site is expanding.

Working in Freight and Logistics could take you all over the world.

Here are some of the many roles available.

Air Imports and Export Agents

Air Import Agents process freight that comes into the UK. Air Export Agents process goods going out. In this role you will provide advice on options available for importing or exporting. You'll also advise on Customs clearance and payment of taxes. Import and Export Agents must be able to understand their customers' businesses and the business needs.

Customer Services

The relationship with the customer is key. Many of the larger companies at East Midlands Airport have call centres to deliver the best service possible. This part of the business can be fast paced, demanding, with changing priorities. In this role you'll be responsible for: getting quotations, processing requests, checking capacity (space available), explaining terms and conditions of business and providing a professional and efficient service. All of this is essential for businesses to run profitably.

Warehousing

Before goods can be transported they often have to be stored.

Warehouse Workers look after, store and process goods. This type of work is physically demanding, so you have to be fit. You may move goods around by hand or using forklift trucks.

Warehouse Workers have to work quickly, efficiently and be able to act quickly if there's a problem.

Loaders

Loaders lift, carry and load goods safely. They have to have training to do this. As a Loader, you will be responsible for driving goods onto the apron. The apron is the area where aircraft load or disembark both goods and passengers. It's the area next to the terminal building for passengers and next to warehouses for freight.

Other roles in Freight and Logistics

There are literally hundreds of jobs in Freight and Logistics. There's a lot of technology involved in the smooth-running of freight operations, then there are administration and management roles.

There are head office roles too: marketing, sales, human resources, accountancy and IT. For each of these jobs you'll need different strengths and skills. If you've just left school or if you are a graduate, this is a great area to consider.



Freight aircraft at East Midlands Airport

TO WORK IN AVIATION FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS

You'll be

Physical fit if you want to work in the warehouse. You'll have good communication and maths skills if you are in a customer facing role. You will be good at problem solving and have good IT skills if you are involved at a more strategic or management level.

You'll need

You won't necessarily need any qualifications at all. There are no

minimum entry requirements for Import or Export Agents, Customer Services, Warehouse Workers or Loaders. Basic English, Maths and IT skills will be an advantage.

You'll need normal colour vision if working in warehouses where goods are colour-coded. Most employers provide training in all aspects of the job. There are a lot of graduate opportunities too.

You can expect to earn anything from £12,000 to £26,000. The more you progress the more you can earn. Warehouse Workers can start on around £10 to £11 per

hour. A Warehouse Team Leader can earn around £22,000 to £25,000.

A trainee Import and Export Agent will earn around £10,000 to £12,000 but a Senior Import and Export Agent can earn £20,000 to £25,000.

Warehouse Workers can start on salaries around £12,000

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