Holland International Distribution Council (HIDC) is a non-profit public-private organization, representing the logistics sector in the Netherlands. Services by HIDC are provided free of charge to international companies.

We understand your business, know about logistics, legal and financial regulations and provide unbiased customized advice on the most suitable logistics partners in our network for your operations.

For more information, see our website www.hidc.nl or contact us at +31 79 343 81 10
Europe growing market for life sciences & health

Over the past decade the global life sciences & health sector has experienced healthy growth and is expected to continue growing. The European Union is an increasingly interesting market for companies in pharma, medical devices and e-health. Apart from well-developed healthcare systems, Europe has a large consumer base, an aging population and rising health expenditure.

To scale up your European operations, the Netherlands is the perfect hub. It is the most concentrated life sciences & health region in the world, with more than 400 innovative R&D life sciences & health companies within a 120-mile radius. Industry here is well positioned in molecular imaging, medical informatics, biopharmaceuticals, human and veterinary vaccines, regenerative medicine and biomaterials, medical technology and health infrastructure. The Dutch logistics sector provides also abounds with third-party logistics specialized in medical logistics.

Many life sciences & health companies therefore base their (European) headquarters, marketing & sales office or distribution center in the Netherlands.

Trending ...
- Focus on core business, outsourcing logistics.
- Shift to differentiated supply chains.
- More direct-distribution channels to end consumer.
- Better visibility of the supply chain (i.e. for demand-driven chains).
- Adaptability to new regulatory standards or innovative products.

Facts and figures
- Annual exports by the Netherlands life sciences sector total 37 billion euros: 12 billion in pharma and 25 billion in medical devices.
- The sector invests over 2 billion euros in R&D each year.
- The Netherlands has 8 university medical centers, 14 research universities and 137 general hospitals.
- Total healthcare expenditure in the Netherlands is 12% of GDP, amounting to 68 billion euros (2012).
- Approximately 1.1 million people work in the Dutch healthcare sector (2011).
- There are almost 25,000 medical technology companies in Europe, of which small or micro-sized companies account for nearly 95%.
- The European medical technology industry employs over 575,000 people.
- From the Dutch region 170 million consumers (half of the EU) are served within a 300-mile radius and approximately 244 million consumers within a 600-mile radius.

Your benefits in the Netherlands
- Centrally located in close proximity to the three largest European economies: Germany, France and the UK.
- Access to high quality research and international partnerships.
- Superior infrastructure for clinical research.
- Specialized logistics service providers in pharma and medtech, such as ISO 13485-licensed.
- Pro-business climate and attractive tax benefits, including specific R&D incentives and VAT deferment upon import.
- Top-ranking sea and airport facilities (Amsterdam Schiphol Airport, the Port of Amsterdam and the Port of Rotterdam).
- Highly educated, multi-lingual and flexible workforce.