



# Optimising International Flows Delivers Step-Change For Global Pharmaceutical Manufacturer

**Yusen Logistics was initially appointed by this leading global pharmaceutical manufacturer to implement lean principles in 2007, which involved re-engineering its European flows as part of its international requirement to deliver over 1 billion packs to patients.**

## CUSTOMER CHALLENGE

As part of its lean strategy, the customer was seeking to optimise freight movements within its international supply chain across the modes of ocean, air and road to deliver further step-change benefits. The solution covers 28 manufacturing sites worldwide.

Yusen is responsible for this customer's product movements between selected global manufacturing sites into Europe, movements from global manufacturing sites leaving Europe, as well as all inter- and intra- European flows. The product range is held under three different temperature regimes and Yusen handles it at every production stage, from active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) and excipients, through to bulk tablets, finished tablets, samples and packaging. This is a highly complex and demanding supply chain, with delivery points including manufacturing sites, wholesalers, inmarket distributors and laboratories.

## Customer Challenge

- Optimise freight movements within an international supply chain across the modes of ocean, air and road
- Global, inter- and intra- European flows
- Complex range of products at different manufacturing stages, 3 temperature regimes

## Yusen Logistics' Solution

- Primary hub in Antwerp supported by Yusen Logistics' award-winning Pharmaceutical Superhighway, a Control-Tower driven European multi-modal network
- Maximised ocean movements, minimised airfreight
- Maximised consolidation and co-loading optimising road movements

## Benefits

- Continued reduction in global cost per pallet
- Consistent delivery in full, without temperature excursions 99.8%
- Optimisation of transport mode, delivering continuous improvement and cost down



## YUSEN LOGISTICS' SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTION

Yusen Logistics refocused the solution infrastructure designating its GDP approved, specialist healthcare distribution centre at Antwerp the primary hub. The Antwerp facility has excellent access for air and ocean movements and is at the heart of the Pharmaceutical Superhighway, Yusen's Control-Tower driven European multi-modal network. The award-winning Superhighway, which carries over 1.2million pallets pa, provides a number of pharmaceutical manufacturers with high security, temperature controlled coverage, flexible GDP compliant solutions, which ensure complete product integrity and legislative compliance.

The Control Tower provides operational alignment between the customer's central procurement function and its regional and global manufacturing sites.



Yusen's integrated IT system manages all transactions from receipt to final delivery, providing full shipment transparency. Yusen's strategically developed VISION transport management application has been tailored to pharmaceutical tracking requirements. Using VISION, the planning team can build milkruns, co-loads, round trips and decide whether to crossdock product or deliver direct. VISION also manages haulier payment and generates customer invoices. The system ensures receipt of POD's and temperature reports, providing reports to support operations and KPI data.

## CUSTOMER BENEFITS

Major benefits have been delivered across the air, ocean and road aspects of the solution, with many individual elements of the overall solution re-engineered to optimise freight, delivering continuous improvement and cost-down.

Refining the road solution focused on consolidation into Yusen Antwerp. Maximising co-loading opportunities for onward movement has enabled enhanced performance, reduced lead times and costs, whilst achieving performance targets.

## About Yusen Logistics

Yusen Logistics is an award-winning provider of contract logistics and air/ocean freight forwarding. Offering a truly global, total logistics service, the company provides warehousing, distribution, freight forwarding and supply chain management services. The company's European region employs some 4,300 employees and operates 76 facilities with over 700,000m<sup>2</sup> of warehousing space throughout Europe, from Spain to Russia. The global headquarters of Yusen Logistics is Tokyo, with other regional headquarters for East Asia, South Asia/Oceania and the Americas.

Airfreight movements have been minimised and ocean maximised, consolidating inbound freight directly into the European network, saving cost.

Where airfreight is essential, it has been optimised, maximising quality and temperature performance, delivering cost benefits from enhanced consolidation. Expedited shipments have been halved as a result of customer confidence in the robustness of the solution.

Overall, Yusen has improved quality, eradicated risk and achieved on-going cost-down, faced with challenging timescales, temperature demands and security requirements.



## For further information

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