



Best Practices Assessment

Why Conduct a Best Practices Assessment?

Intensifying competition, industry changes, tighter customer requirements, and higher corporate expectations demand a higher standard of performance. To lead in this environment, you must find a way to maintain or improve your company's ability to meet or exceed those standards. Benchmarking provides you with Best in Class capabilities to help ensure your organization continues to exceed expectations.



“...the implications of efficient and effective operations can mean the difference between spending or saving millions of dollars”



Over the past twenty years, Seber Logistics Consulting, Inc. (SLC) has emerged as the recognized early proponent and pre-eminent expert in Benchmarking and Supply Chain Consulting. In numerous domestic and global projects, SLC has successfully employed our integrated *Strategic Improvement Methodology*. This comprehensive approach enables companies to capitalize on key opportunities, while providing a clear plan for future improvement.

The **SLC Benchmark Data Base™**, comprised of extensive supply chain best practices, provides a solid foundation to quickly identify and implement highly effective, pragmatic solutions. Coupled with our “field-tested” approach, SLC is uniquely qualified to unlock the service and cost potentials currently trapped within your supply chain.

SEBER LOGISTICS CONSULTING, INC.

Proven solutions . . . delivered

Through our work in various industries and professional organizations, SLC is continually exposed to today's leading State of the Art companies. Coupled with our previous and current Benchmarking activities, SLC has developed long-term relationships with Best In Class / State of the Art companies.

SLC's Approach... to Best Practices is objective and factual.

The scope of a Best Practices Assessment is determined through collaboration between the client and SLC staff members. Through identification of cost/performance gaps, or as a result of corporate strategic initiatives, key elements of the supply chain are selected for evaluation.

Typical areas include:

- Customer Interface
- Demand Management
- Order to Cash Management
- Procurement and Sourcing
- Manufacturing
- Pack Out and Assembly
- Warehousing
- Transportation



The overall goal is to develop the *best operating processes, practices and management controls*. This enables your organization to re-engineer these targeted areas to enhance both efficiency and effectiveness. Specific objectives typically include:

1. Assessing the cost and service effectiveness of targeted operations;
2. Providing your team with insight into the noteworthy achievements of *Best In Class/State of the Art* companies;
3. Developing, recommending, and prioritizing "best practice" strategies, processes and technologies; and,
4. Conducting a working session to review the study's findings, conclusions and recommendations.

"By leveraging the SLC Benchmark Data Base™, we accelerate the development of innovative Supply Chain solutions. This enables us to have a unique advantage over our competitors, and deliver proven solutions to our clients."

James J. Seber
President & CEO
Seber Logistics Consulting, Inc.

ACCESS BEST PRACTICES

Seber Logistics Consulting's approach is designed to leverage your team's knowledge of their current operations with SLC's Supply Chain and Benchmarking expertise. Our consultants' extensive hands-on supply chain experience enables us to efficiently and effectively develop an in-depth understanding of your operations.



SLC Best Practices Assessments provide an objective evaluation of your organization's performance, including:

- Insight into Best in Class capabilities
- Identification of improvement opportunities
- Prioritized implementation "action plan"
- Immediate "self-funding" for the Best Practices Assessment
- Improved service and decreased costs

“Conducting a best practices assessment with SLC provided us with clear insight into our current supply chain performance as well as our future needs. The process defined the steps we needed to take in order to enhance customer satisfaction and realize significant cost reductions.”

Peter Schmidt
Vice President, Supply Chain
Fuji U.S.A.

Typical steps include:

1. Conduct Project Planning Session

The project team discusses the areas to be reviewed, the data collection requirements, the approach, and the schedule for conducting on-site reviews.

2. Review Operations

The project team conducts comprehensive reviews of your current operations. The team observes your operations, reviews key data, and determines service and operating requirements. After the review has been completed, a checkpoint meeting is conducted to validate SLC's observations.

- *Review data collection requirements lists with your project manager*
- *Facilitate kick-off meeting with your project team and associates to review project scope, objectives, approach, deliverables, and schedule*
- *Conduct a comprehensive on-site review at selected sites*
- *Compile and document observations*
- *Conduct checkpoint meeting:*
 - review initial findings and conclusions
 - discuss potential alternatives
 - validate the project team's observations
 - finalize next steps



3. Conduct Benchmark Analysis

Using the information gathered during the previous phase, the project team evaluates your operation

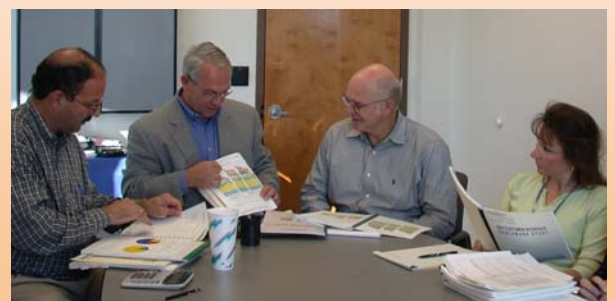
- *Extract best practices data from **SLC Benchmark Data Base™***
- *Analyze your company's profile data*
- *Develop preliminary strategies and recommendations for areas including:*
 - Processes
 - Technologies
 - New work methods
 - Task interrelationships
 - Work flows
 - Management controls
 - Systems
 - Key performance indicators
- *Determine benefits/costs associated with major recommendations*
- *Develop workbook, presentation and action plan*

4. Facilitate Working Session

SLC facilitates a meeting with your management team to discuss our observations, conclusions and recommendations.

Key issues that are typically addressed include:

- *Your company vs. Best In Class*
- *Gaps in operations*
- *Alternative strategies*
- *Resource requirements*
- *Benefits/costs*
- *Action plan implementation*





about us

SEBER LOGISTICS CONSULTING, INC.

104 Tamarack Circle
 Skillman, New Jersey 08558
www.seberinc.com
 609.688.1000

Seber Logistics Consulting, Inc. (SLC) is a management consulting firm specializing in supply chain management and operations. For over two decades, SLC has been recognized as an early proponent, leader and expert in Benchmarking and Supply Chain Consulting.

We are independent and objective. We have no affiliations with any potential service providers and do not market any third party software or products. SLC selects and uses the modeling application that best fits our client's and project's needs. We work solely on your behalf

Our specialists provide professional counsel, and hands-on help that deliver strategic insight, operational expertise and powerful, tangible results.

Our solutions help companies think beyond traditional boundaries. In short, clients turn to us for recommendations that work. Our solutions do not create new problems. The strategic options that we develop have consistently advanced our clients' corporate and organizational goals.

Clients Include:

ACCO
 Alberto Culver
 Alcoa
 Avery Dennison
 Barilla
 Bausch & Lomb
 Bayer
 BIC
 Becton Dickinson
 Black & Decker
 Cadbury Adams
 Campbell Soup
 Church & Dwight
 Clorox
 Colgate-Palmolive
 ConAgra Foods
 Coty

Dial
 Dole
 Del Monte
 Eastman Kodak
 Elizabeth Arden
 Eli Lilly
 Fuji Photo Film
 General Electric
 General Mills
 Gerber
 Gillette
 Heinz
 Hershey's
 Hewlett-Packard
 Hoffmann-La Roche
 J.M. Smucker
 Johnson & Johnson

Kellogg's
 Kraft
 Land-O-Lakes
 L'Oréal
 Malt-O-Meal
 Maybelline
 Merck
 Moen
 M&M Mars
 3M
 Mott's
 Nestlé
 Novartis
 Ocean Spray
 Osram Sylvania
 Perrigo

Pfizer
 Procter & Gamble
 Quaker Oats
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