



# Warehouse Best Practices Assessment

## Why Conduct a Warehouse Best Practices Assessment?

Competition in today's marketplace is more intense than ever. Industry changes, tighter customer requirements, and increasing corporate expectations continue to raise the performance bar. Best practices benchmarking enables your organization to exceed expectations by providing a structured approach to implementing Best In Class capabilities.



*“...the implications of efficient and effective warehouse 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 Warehouse Best Practices is objective and factual.

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

Typical areas include:

- Receiving
- Putaway
- Order selection/picking
- Storage/Material Handling
- Pack Out & Assembly
- Shipment Planning
- Shipping
- Returns



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 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 Warehouse 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 Warehouse 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.

### **3. Conduct Benchmark Analysis**

Using the information gathered during the previous phase, the project team evaluates your warehouse operations.

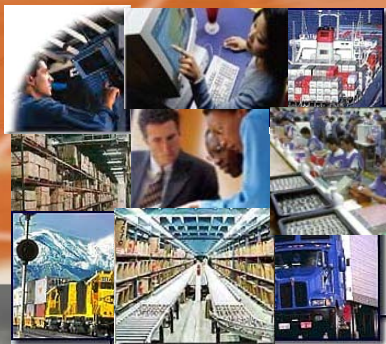
- *Extract best practices data from **SLC Benchmark Data Base™***
- *Analyze your company’s profile data*
- *Develop preliminary strategies and recommendations for areas including:*
  - Processes
  - New work methods
  - Work flows
  - Systems
  - Storage/Material Handling
  - Automation
  - Technologies
  - Task interrelationships
  - Management controls
  - 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*



# about us

## SEBER LOGISTICS CONSULTING, INC.

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*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 network 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:

- |                      |                   |                      |                       |                            |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 3M                   | Ciba Vision       | GNC                  | Mead Johnson          | Reckitt Benckiser          |
| Abbott               | Clairol           | Gucci                | Merck                 | Revlon                     |
| ACCO                 | Clorox            | H. J. Heinz          | Method Products       | Reynolds Consumer Products |
| Acuity               | Colgate-Palmolive | Henkel (Dial)        | Moen                  | Rich Products              |
| Alberto Culver       | ConAgra           | Hershey              | Mott's                | S.C. Johnson               |
| Alcoa                | Coty              | Hewlett-Packard      | Nestlé                | Sandisk                    |
| Anchor Foods         | CVS               | Hill's Pet Nutrition | Nestlé Purina Petcare | Sanford                    |
| Andrew Jergens       | Del Monte         | Hoffmann-La Roche    | Neutrogena            | Sara Lee                   |
| Apple Computer       | Diamond Foods     | J.M. Smucker         | Novartis              | Schering-Plough            |
| Avery Dennison       | Dole              | Johnson & Johnson    | Ocean Spray           | Schick                     |
| Barilla America      | Eastman Kodak     | Johnsonville Sausage | Osram Sylvania        | StanleyWorks               |
| Bausch & Lomb        | Eli Lilly         | Kellogg              | Otis Spunkmeyer       | TaTa Global Beverages      |
| Baxter Healthcare    | Elizabeth Arden   | Kraft Foods          | Perrigo               | Teknor Apex                |
| Bayer                | Energizer         | L'Oréal              | Pfizer                | Uncle Ben's                |
| Becton Dickinson     | Estee Lauder      | Land O' Lakes        | Philip Morris         | Unilever                   |
| BIC                  | Exel              | Lifescan             | Pinnacle Foods        | US Oncology                |
| Black & Decker       | Ferrero USA, Inc. | Logitech             | Playtex Products      | Vistakon                   |
| Bristol-Myers Squibb | Fuji Photo Film   | M&M Mars             | Polaroid              | Welch's                    |
| Bush Brothers        | General Mills     | Malt-O-Meal          | Procter & Gamble      | White Wave Foods           |
| Cadbury Adams        | Georgia Pacific   | Martin Brower        | Quaker Oats           | Wrigley's                  |
| Campbell Soup        | Gerber            | Mary Kay Cosmetics   | Rayovac               | Wyeth                      |
| Chesebrough-Pond's   | Gillette          | Maybelline           |                       | Xerox                      |
| Church & Dwight      | Glaxo SmithKline  | McCormick Foods      |                       | Zwilling J. A. Henckels    |

**Proven solutions . . . delivered**