

10 Reasons a Career in Supply Chain Management is Cooler Than You Think



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A positive buzz is building around supply chain careers.

Here are 10 reasons why.



Reason 1

The industry has already attracted an impressive pool of hot talent.

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And, we can point to 30 good examples.

Reason 2

It's where the jobs are.

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“

The possibilities for a supply chain professional are essentially limitless. If you have the skills and the drive, you can live anywhere you want to live and work in any industry.”

Amy Georgi, 30, Program Manager,
Supply Chain Acquisitions and Integrations,
Fluke Electronics, a Danaher Company, York, Pennsylvania


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“Supply management allows you to learn about many different functions, products and industries and keeps you doing something different every day.”

Megan Donoghue, 29, Corporate Procurement Manager,
FXI, Media, Pennsylvania

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Reason 3

**It's the best kept
career secret around.**

Until now.

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I was two weeks into my first Supply Chain class and my professor explained there was a function whose purpose is to save money and find ways to be more efficient. I declared my major the next week and haven't looked back since!”

Leandra Taylor, 25, Contracting and Procurement,
Deepwater Projects, Shell Offshore Inc., Houston, Texas



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“

I was working as a temp in human resources and wanted a permanent position. I stumbled across this entry-level job, contract administrator, and the description seemed to match some of the skills I had acquired from my college and work experience. I had no idea what I was getting into, but I'm so glad I took the risk.”

Danielle Amico, 28, Contract Administrator,
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey



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“Dumb luck placed me in the supply chain field. When I started in Avnet’s transportation department, I didn’t realize that it could be considered as part of the supply chain. That’s how little I knew at the time.”

Christian Goehring, 29, Logistics Support Supervisor,
Avnet, Inc., Chandler, Arizona



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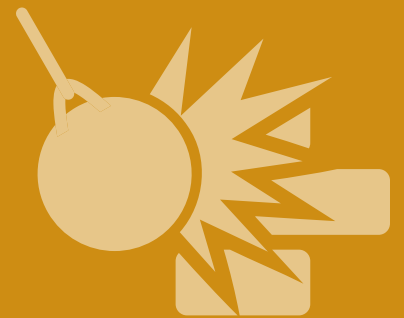
“Beginning my college career, I had planned on becoming an architect. I went to a Logistics Job Fair that the University of Tennessee hosted, and after seeing the different job opportunities and the vast array of careers within supply chain, I was hooked.”

Leah Elders, 27, Team Lead Inventory Analyst,
ConAgra Foods, St. Louis, Missouri

Reason 4

You can make a
BIG impact.

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Every day offers an opportunity to fundamentally improve and grow our company.”

Max Pike, 28, Director of U.S. Operations,
Haven, San Francisco, California

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I love being part of a team on innovative projects, where you are accomplishing things that you didn't think were possible.”

Jessica Mayhew, 29, Sourcing Manager,
Parker Hannifin, Cleveland, Ohio



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It provides numerous opportunities to make an immediate impact while also offering a macro perspective of a business.”

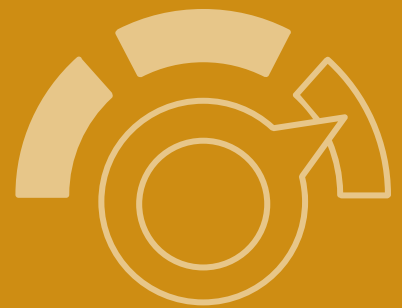
Conrad Smith, 27, Subcontracts Program Manager,
Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, Rancho Bernardo, California

Reason 5

**You'll be forced out of
your comfort zone...**

in a good way.

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“With the many roles I play come many skill sets and the need to be able to switch from one role to another quickly and multiple times a day.”

Leonardo Lopez, 27, Buyer III,
Johnson Controls, Inc., Norman, Oklahoma

“ Encouraging my clients
(project managers) to keep
an open mind about suppliers
is the most challenging part
of my job.”

Danielle Amico, 28, Contract Administrator,
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

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I have had great experiences that I did not even anticipate at this age. The future looks incredibly bright, too!”

Ross Scott, 28, Supply Chain Solutions Manager,
Sandvik, Auburn Hills, Michigan

Reason 6


You'll be in the driver's seat.

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“ I am empowered to make critical decisions and have a role that is highly valued in the company. Leadership looks to my team to drive forward new supply chain processes and make lasting changes.”

Ross Scott, 28, Supply Chain Solutions Manager,
Sandvik, Auburn Hills, Michigan

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“ You get the opportunity to look at all areas of a business and see how it operates and take control of a piece of it. I find it very rewarding. It’s a field where you can really succeed!”

Michael Croasdale, 26, Senior Project Manager,
Source One Management Services, LLC, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania

“ Our efforts can be seen directly in the P&L, so we know exactly where we are being impactful within the organization.”

Leonardo Lopez, 27, Buyer III,
Johnson Controls, Inc., Norman, Oklahoma

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Reason 7

**You can shape
the industry.**

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This profession has so much potential and opportunity. I don't know of any one organization that wouldn't benefit from having a young, talented, energetic supply chain professional in its ranks.”

Jeff Monroe, 27, Master's in Supply Chain Management Candidate,
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

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“ It’s the mindset of the younger generation to utilize technology for increased efficiency.”

Michael Croasdale, Senior Project Manager,
Source One Management Services, LLC, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania

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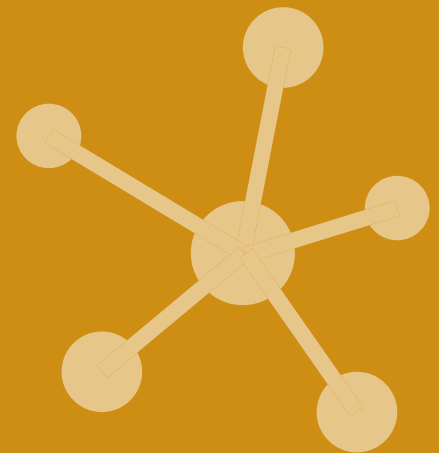
It offers the opportunity to have a direct impact on your organization's bottom line. You are challenged to think outside the box and critically analyze data in order to arrive at the most efficient and effective solutions.”

Chinedum Nweze, 24, Supply Management Specialist,
John Deere, Davenport, Iowa

Reason 8

**Supply chain is
at the center of
every organization.**

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“Supply chain management is literally the heartbeat of companies around the world. If you want to enter a field that is never boring, never repetitive and challenges you on a daily basis, supply management is your field.”

Grayson Mitchell, 25, Area Sales Manager,
Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Irvine, California

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“

Gain as much experience in a broad spectrum as you can. There are a lot of different components to supply management, depending on what area of the field you go into.”

Robert Dennis, 30, Contract Administrator, Princeton University,
Princeton, New Jersey

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Reason 9

Supply chain professionals take care of each other.

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You need to be a connector and start networking from Day One – your network is your net worth and will determine your future. You don't know who is looking for you and you don't know what other people have to offer unless you make those connections and find those opportunities.”

Amrish Lobo, 29, Director, Global Logistics,

Distribution & Customer Service, Baker Hughes Inc., Houston, Texas



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“When you start out, it’s good to say yes to a lot of different things. That allows you to learn what you like and what you don’t like. It also helps you to build a broader reputation within the organization rather than being a superstar who is unknown outside your small area.”

Logan Ferguson, 26, Improvement Leader,
DuPont, Wilmington, Delaware

Reason 10

And of course, earning potential is promising.

In 2015, the average salary of a supply chain professional was \$101,944.*

*ISM Salary Survey



Intrigued by the possibilities of a career in supply chain management?

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Meet some young professionals already in the field.

Download the
30 UNDER 30 profile book

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Founded by THOMASNET® and Institute for Supply Management® in 2014, the 30 under 30 Rising Supply Chain Stars program is designed to recognize individuals who have demonstrated leadership, innovation, collaboration, and other outstanding attributes.

Institute for Supply Management®

A trusted leader with 100 years of experience, ISM is a global education association furthering the supply management profession and the careers of practitioners.
Instituteforsupplymanagement.org

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