



Transport & Distribution in Kent & Medway

- As the **closest UK county** to mainland Europe, and with **6 seaports**, an **international airport, shuttle and freight train services** and **well connected motorways**, it is not surprising that Kent & Medway has been described as “the only serious contender for serving a North European market place within the UK.”
- With over **2,400 companies** employing some **35,000 people**, Transport & Distribution is a major contributor to the Kent economy.
- Kent boasts **2 of the top 10 ports** for all sea freight movement in the UK. In 2009 total freight movement from Dover was 25.1 million tonnes, Medway carried 13.1 million tonnes and Ramsgate 1.59 million tonnes.
- As the **nearest UK landing point to continental Europe**, Kent & Medway’s ports are amongst the busiest in Northern Europe. Passenger, coach and truck options include services from Dover (Calais and Dunkerque) and Ramsgate (Ostende).
- Other passenger services from Kent to Europe include **Eurostar** from Ashford International station and Ebbsfleet International station. Ebbsfleet International station is a major transport hub providing fast services from Kent to London and European destinations, as well **providing 5.5 million sq ft of available commercial space**.
- There are 15 railway transportation companies in Kent employing almost 2,000 people.
- One of the main growth areas in rail freight is international freight and this is where Kent is fortunate to have **High Speed 1** – the new high speed line connecting the Channel Tunnel with London **transports 6.5 million passengers a year**. With the completion of the second stage made in 2007 to extend the link into London St. Pancras, greatly reduced travel times between London and Kent.
- Since November 2007, some 7 services to Paris and 5 to Brussels started running from the £100 million Ebbsfleet International station near Dartford.

- In 2009 the Government established **High Speed 2 Ltd** (HS2 Ltd) with a costed and deliverable proposal for a new line from Euston, London to other major cities including; Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds.
- **Eurotunnel's** shuttle and freight train services (from Folkestone to Calais in 35 minutes) moves around 20 million tonnes a year.
- Kent is home to **Kent International Airport** in East Kent, which is one of the fastest growing air terminals, both for freight and passenger services. In 2010 the airport dealt with over 50,000 passengers and carries 32,000 tonnes of freight a year.
- Kent's strategic location is reflected in its established and expanding logistics & distribution sector. There are **160 freight forwarding companies** within Kent including **5 of the top 10 freight forwarders in the UK (Frans Maas, UPS SCS, Geologistics, Kuehne & Nagel, Laser Transport International)**. Kent also has a significant number of road haulage companies including **Christian Salvesen, Wincanton and Tibbett & Brittain**.
- Training facility **Traned** in Chatham provides quality training to the transport and logistics profession. With a team of highly qualified advisors all of which have a wealth of invaluable experience in the transport and distribution industry.
- Key products transported through Kent & Medway include **forestry products, fresh produce, machinery & equipment and vehicles**. Kent has many established warehousing and storage facilities including specialist cold storage facilities, ideal for holding or ripening fresh foods.
- Existing investors include: **Thomas Pink; Geopost; Highways International; Aviaservices Ltd; Eurostar (UK) Ltd; End-1 Trans Industries and Swift Book Distribution Ltd**.
- For further information on the Transport & Distribution sector in Kent and its company base, please visit www.locateinkent.com or contact us on 00 44 1732 520700 / enquiries@locateinkent.com.