



# 10 REASONS THAT MAKE URUGUAY A LOGISTICS CLUSTER

### **Leader in technology**

Uruguay leads the ICT Development Index in Latin America (ITU-2015). At the same time, it is the country with the fastest download speed in the region due to its modern infrastructure (Akamai-2015).

### **Investment in transport**

The Ministry of Transport and Public Works is developing an investment program for the 2015-2019 period which will maximize production capacities and will facilitate progress in the strategic project that the government calls "Uruguay as a logistic cluster."

A state policy in terms of transport designed to bolster the road and railway network as well as the national port system in Uruguay.

### Quality of services in the supply chain

The efficiency of logistic services enables to reduce the time of transit, lower inventory costs due to a higher turnover of stock, offer optimum delivery times and competitive international freight.

Uruguayan logistics operators are well known for their capacity for service. The Qualified Economic Operator certifies the processes and provides reliability to the supply chain.

### **Excellent quality of life**

Montevideo has the best quality of life in Latin America (Mercer, 2015) and Uruguay is the country with the highest and best distributed income in the region.

### Political, legal and social stability

Uruguay has a democratic system with institutional and legal continuity which ensures a favorable business climate and respect for the rules.

### **Macroeconomic soundness**

Between 2004 and 2015, Uruguay grew on average 5.1% annually, consolidating a sustained growth period.

### Access to an expanded market

Uruguay is part of the Mercosur and a FTA with Mexico, reasons that make it a gateway to a potential market of 400 million people.

### Infrastructure and connectivity

Modern port and airport facilities in Montevideo and competitive advantages in bulk cargo operations in Nueva Palmira make Uruguay's port and airport system an excellent option for the international transport of cargo destined for MERCOSUR. The Liner Shipping Connectivity Index (LSCI) places Uruguay above the Latin American, Caribbean and African average, and even slightly above the countries of East Asia and the Pacific.

### **Customs facilitation**

In the modernization and facilitation process of international trade operations the "Customs without paperwork" port access system is to be implemented. In addition to the fluidity of the operational paperwork process is the Single Window for Foreign Trade (VUCE, for its Spanish acronym), which enables to carry out foreign trade procedures in Uruguay online.

### Logistics promotion and coordination

The National Institute of Logistics (INALOG, for its Spanish acronym) brings together the public and private community through the promotion of and advice on sector development in order to help consolidate the country as an international logistics platform for regional distribution of cargo and added value.

## AN INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION PLATFORM

A favorable environment for investment positions Uruguay as a reliable and attractive destination for foreign investment. The country has kept a strong political and social stability, supported by a consolidated democracy and strong legal certainty. The logistics sector in Uruguay promotes the growth of international trade activities based on modern infrastructure and smart management.

### MODERN LOGISTICS INDUSTRY

- >> The upswing of the logistics industry comprises traditional warehousing, grouping and degrouping activities, and has also incorporated vale added activities on a large scale, such as packaging, labeling, processing, assembly and installation, and other services rendered to the goods.
- >> Modern service platforms in warehouses cater for the incorporation of value in the supply chain, keeping inventories within hours of consumption centers.



## THE GATEWAY TO THE SOUTH AMERICAN MARKET



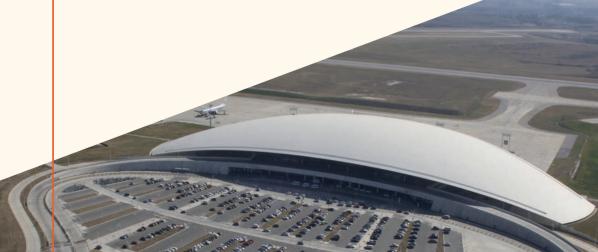
- >> Its strategic location in a regional market of over 250 million people allows it to put itself forward as the best option to enter South America.
- The main production and consumption centers are interconnected by the densest national road network in Latin America. A regional system of modern waterways, port and airport terminals ease the international transit of goods.

### CONDITIONS THAT PROTECT THE INVESTOR

- >> Uruguay has an attractive investment promotion system (Law 16,906), whereby foreign and local investors are treated under the same conditions.
- >> No prior authorization or registration is required to operate and there are no limits to the transfer of capital or profits from foreign investments.
- >> The exchange market is free, with no restrictions for the purchase or sale of foreign exchange and investments may be made in any currency.

### LEADER IN LATIN AMERICA

	Uruguay in Latin America
<b>Democracy Index</b> (Economist Intelligence Unit; 2015)	10
<b>Low Corruption</b> (Transparency International, 2015)	10
Prosperity Index (Legatum Institute, 2015)	10
Rule of Law Index (World Justice Project, 2015)	10
Press Freedom Index (Reporters without Borders, 2015)	2°
<b>Worldwide Governance Indicators</b> (World Bank, 2014)	2°
Global Peace Index (Institute for Economics & Peace, 2015)	3°
Economic Freedom (Heritage Foundation, 2015)	30





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