North-Rhine Westphalia

At a glance

Capital: Düsseldorf
Area: 34,098 km²
Population: 17.8 m.
GDP per capita: 31,893 EUR

Location (Neighbouring states/ EU-countries):
- Lower Saxony, Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate (together about 18 m. people)
- The Netherlands, Belgium (together about 27.6 m. people)

Key industries:
- chemistry, engineering, metal production and processing, food and beverages, automobile, metal ware, electronics, plastics, logistics

Number of employees in logistics: 615,000

Logistics Solutions

Important logistics hubs and functions:
North-Rhine Westphalia (NRW) is the economical and logistical heart of Germany. Here, a dense consumer market (17.8 m. people) comes together with a strong logistics industry. Half of the top 10 logistics companies are based in NRW. At the same time, NRW has Europe’s most dense traffic network and is connected to Western European seaports via the Rhine – Europe’s largest waterway. NRW is the leader in logistics research and its so-called efficiency cluster logistics Ruhr is involved in the biggest research project worldwide regarding all future topics of logistics.

Lighthouse:
NRW’s strength is its capacity to provide specific solutions for all areas of logistics. What stands out is Duisburg’s port – the largest inland port worldwide – where a strong logistics hub, especially for imported goods, has formed. In 2011, 2.5 million TEU were traded at Duisburg’s port.

Another, important location is Cologne Bonn Airport (CGN). This is where UPS has built their European airfreight base, and also DHL and FedEx benefit from the excellent logistical infrastructure in North-Rhine Westphalia for the import of goods.