

Logistics Plus (LP) is a global transportation management company based in Erie, Pennsylvania. Every summer the flags of more than 50 home nations of its employees and customers are proudly displayed over the historic Union Station in the heart of the city, brightening up the redeveloping Station Square and Griswold Park. Most local folks know all about LP's commitment to Erie and to the growth it has experienced in its 17 years here, becoming one of the more recognizable employers in the region and serving many, if not most, of its top manufacturers.

But how many know the other sides of the company — the people and the products behind those colorful flags? Here, we'll highlight one of them: LP Turkey.

LP Turkey is not the company's biggest "outside" office, but it is one of the fastest growing and most exciting. While Logistics Plus has been in many countries around the world for 15 years or more, the first Turkey office was established in Mersin (a Mediterranean seaport city) only five years ago. In fact, Turkey was chosen to host LP's first global meeting in 2010. When asked why, Founder and CEO Jim Berlin says, "It's not always all about Erie. Turkey is something of the crossroads of the world, where West meets East, and it is also a beautiful country."

Since then, LP has expanded to Istanbul and then, just last year, to Izmir, opening up its third office there.

The Republic of Turkey

Straddling two continents, Turkey has been called the center of world history. Founded in 1923, it is a young republic in an ancient land — seat of the Roman, Greek and Ottoman Empires, birthplace of Homer,



and the last home of the Virgin Mary. A nation of 75 million people, it is twice the size of California. The Bosporus Strait divides Istanbul in two, forming the boundary between Europe and Asia. It is a beautiful country, one of the few truly self-sufficient nations in the world, and it is growing rapidly. There is a thriving lifestyle and tourist industry, and all religions are welcome.

Logistics in Turkey

Turkey has an advantageous position between Europe and Asia, giving it an important transit function. Much of the country is like a giant peninsula and it is very easy to reach by ship — both from the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. Most transports are done via sea or road. The rail system has been neglected for years, but improvements are in the works that will soon change that, opening up opportunity for improved rail service.



Turkey has mountainous regions in the east, in the direction of Georgia, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. And some areas are virtually inaccessible. The most important export markets for Turkey are Germany, Great Britain, Italy, France and the United States. Most imported goods come from Germany, France, Italy, China and the United States. Turkey also is a leading economic power in the Middle East and is expanding trade into northern Africa as well.

LP Turkey

Logistics Plus' team in Turkey, like the nation and its people, is young and energetic. Many of these talented professionals have more than 10 years of industry experience, priding themselves in LP Turkey's reputation as specialists in project cargo.

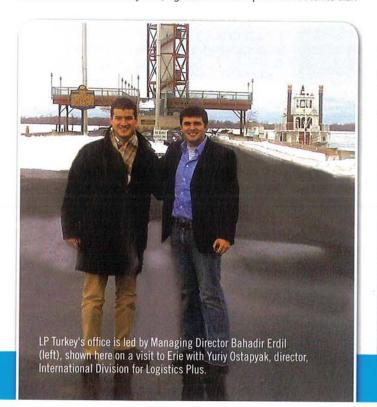
Under the leadership of Managing Director Bahadir Erdil and Operations Manager Basar Kandil, LP Turkey provides complete services for entire large-scale, heavy lift projects. Whether the assignment is to relocate an entire factory to Qingdao or move a precision satellite dish

to a remote elevation in the Nahcivan, Logistics Plus Turkey's Project Logistics team plans, manages and then executes special logistics projects of any scale, from start to finish.

According to the company, however challenging the geography, however complex the movement, LP Turkey's Project Cargo team works closely with its engineering and contractor customers to ensure that every project is planned, delivered and completed on time and to exact specifications.

"We love when we get pictures from these Turkey projects because they are impressive and very, very cool," states Berlin. "We have dozens of them on our walls right here in Union Station in Erie. These guys are great."

Turkey is just one of 18 foreign countries where Logistics Plus has offices and people helping to "connect the world" — by providing global logistics solutions from Union Station in downtown Erie to the Bosporus a half a world away. ☆





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