



A Guide to Using the LSL – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. What is the LSL and who should use it?

A. The LSL is a powerful search engine that allows shippers to find value-added warehouse providers by a number of different criteria. The LSL is geared towards customers of the 3PL industry and specifically those looking for warehousing logistics solutions.

Q. How do I search for warehouse logistics providers?

A. You can search for warehouse providers in one of 4 ways –

1. Browse by Location: This option allows you to view a list of providers in each state / province grouped by the city they are in.
2. Radius Search: This option allows you to search for providers within a certain radius of the zip / postal code that you specify. Results are sorted by distance from the center of the zip / postal code searched on.
3. By Company: This option allows you to search based on a full or partial company name. Wildcard characters are not required to perform a partial name search.
4. By Keyword: This option allows you to search for providers based on a keyword. The keyword search will scan providers' company names, bios, keywords and the cities in which they have locations.

Q. How do I contact a warehouse provider with whom I'm interested in doing business?

A. You can contact a provider in one of 3 ways-

1. You can click the "E-mail" link listed under the provider's name on the radius search results or profile pages and send them a message.
2. You can telephone them using the phone number provided on the radius search results page or the profile pages.
3. You can opt to send them a RFI either from their profile page or by selecting the "RFI" checkbox on the radius search results page.

Q. How are the results of a search by postal code ranked?

A. They are ranked by their proximity to the center of the postal code that was searched on.

Q. Why can I only search by U.S. and Canadian postal codes?

A. Because of the limitations of the geocode data being supplied by our current providers.

Q. Who provides the mapping and geo-coding services used on the LSL?

A. Geocode data (which is used to perform distance calculations) is provided by Yahoo! and GeoCoder.ca. The mapping capabilities are provided by Google.

Q. Why outsource my warehouse logistics functions?

A. Manufacturers, distributors and retailers who outsource save time and money. IWLA members offer expertise that manufacturers, distributors and shippers can tap into, allowing users to achieve supply chain solutions with their customers that minimize total delivered costs. The efficiencies generated by outsourcing logistics has made it extremely popular. Recent studies show that fully 80 percent of Fortune 500 companies outsource at least one function – the largest such number in history. Other benefits include:

- Reduced total delivered cost for your customer
- Local expertise in new markets
- Improved customer service through shorter shipment times
- Reduced inventory costs through better management
- Cost benefits through volume shipping discounts
- Improved focus on core competency
- Increased shipment visibility
- More scaleable logistics operation and cost model
- Improved variety of technology and service
- Risk reduction
- Increased expertise in supply chain security

Q. Why use an IWLA member?

A. Outsourcing warehouse logistics operations to an IWLA member adds to the bottom line for both the retailer and manufacturer through accurate, well-managed inventory and supply chain solutions. IWLA members are active in their industry, dedicated to promoting the advancement of best practices and skills required to maintain quality in the profession. Through the Association they receive up-to-date educational resources and cutting edge information on the latest industry trends and practices.

Q. **How will my e-mail address or any other contact information collected on the site be used?**

A. Your e-mail address or other contact information will only be used to keep you informed of new features of the LSL or other news pertaining to the International Warehouse Logistics Association (IWLA). Your information will not be sold or distributed to third-parties.