

Main reasons for choosing Uruguay, the Montevideo Free Port and Supramar for your logistical operations

URUGUAY

Uruguay, together with Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay integrate the Mercosur Free Trade Common External Tariff region.

The trade conditions created by the regional free trade agreement have made Uruguay the most suitable gateway to the other three members of the Mercosur.

As a transit natural gateway to the rest of the Mercosur region, Uruguay has an extensive and varied physical communication network as well as competitive financial services and infrastructure to support business activities and provide access from the southern region up to Chile and Bolivia and their projections to other regions and countries.

Additionally, Uruguay's democratic vocation, openness, long-dated political and economic stability, and cosmopolitan culture presently position the country as an ideal platform to launch new businesses into the region and the world.

Similarly, Uruguay offers the following financial competitive advantages:

- Freedom and availability of foreign currency exchange;
- Legal guarantee for the free repatriation of capital and profits;
- International banking systems;
- Bank secrecy;
- Offshore services;
- Skilled human resources
- No double taxation on corporations or goods.

MONTEVIDEO FREEPORT:

The Montevideo Free Port is a logistical platform strategically located between the Atlantic and the Pacific corridor and equidistant from the largest markets in the region. It consolidates a regional distribution center with access to over 250 million people and a territory of 700.000 km².

International ship owners have identified the as reliable, efficient, safe, and competitive, holding international productivity standards, certified quality processes and moderate costs.

The port terminal operates 24/7 365 days a year and has low statistical records of winds and storms that could hinder the normal development of logistical operations.

Unlike other large ports in the region, the Montevideo Port is agile, dynamic and modern, which avoids congestions or delays during loading and unloading operations.

Three main routes of access converge to the Montevideo Free Port. To the east, modern highways connect Uruguay to Brazil and its main consumption centers, such as Porto Alegre, Curitiba, San Pablo, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte. To the west, three well-known international bridges link Uruguay to the Argentinean cities of Galeguaychu, Concordia and Colon.

As an example, once customs clearance has been carried out, land transportation times to final destinations may take two days to Buenos Aires, 3 days to Asuncion, 4 days to San Paulo and 5 days to Rio de Janeiro.

The Montevideo Free Port is only 18km. away from Carrasco International Airport and about 250km. away from Buenos Aires port via waterways and about 1000km. from Cordoba by land.

The port operates under the free port system modern legislation since 1992, which makes it the first and only marine terminal on the Atlantic South American coast. This legislation has enabled the creation of a Customs exclusion zone within the port area, which includes the free circulation of goods without permit requirements, authorizations or formal or special procedures, total tax and surcharge exemptions while in the Free port and no limits regarding the goods' length of stay. Goods maintain their certificate of origin. Mercosur certificates of origin may be fractioned.

Goods nature cannot be modified while at the Montevideo Free Port; however value can be added to goods, their appearance modified and their purpose or destination freely implemented.

The Montevideo Free Port is a multipurpose facility that enables the operation of container vessels, bulk carriers and cruise ships. It has connections to the main air, maritime, road and rail routes in the region.

The National Customs connects agents and port operators, and enable online and in real time computer processing of various cargo operations, mobilizations and dispatch.

Unlike other regional ports, the Montevideo Free Port system enable clients to store their goods under custody indefinitely and no import expiration requirements are needed.

The Montevideo Free Port also enables importers to carry their goods closer to their final destination in Brazil, Argentina or Paraguay, and, at the same time, reduce delivery times to only a few days.

And, if they need a part of the whole lot, a simple request to the Montevideo port warehouse will ship the goods immediately and deliver them hours later at the importer's own warehouse.

International companies are increasingly centralizing their operations in the Montevideo Free Port and nationalizing their goods until needed.

A foreign user can maintain the ownership of the goods stored and does not need to create a Uruguayan corporation for this purpose.

The free port warehouse works as an extension of the company warehouse.

While in the free port, goods can be sold, purchased or their rights can be assigned to any foreign company without having to pay fees or taxes.

This Regional Distribution Centre is a useful tool in times of economic crisis, since the goods are in transit.

Increasingly more users request to add new value to their goods, in order to better meet their customers' needs.

When centralizing inventories in Uruguay and then sending goods to other countries like Brazil, Argentina or Paraguay, companies can make a financial profit, since there are lower inventory costs in Uruguay compared to nationalized goods in the destination markets.

Regional importers who use the Montevideo Free Port structure may negotiate better prices and higher purchase volumes as well as keep their stock always available but also close to their final destination markets. They can also choose to send only the items that they need to, achieving the advantage of differential financial costs.

Additionally, by using the Montevideo Free Port, the regional importer can minimize unexpected fines and costs and solve problems in advance, like problems with improperly packaged items, problems with Customs, etc. Goods in transit at the Montevideo Free Port may be inspected, repacked and shipped to their final destination markets meeting all the necessary requirements to satisfy final customers' needs and customs' regulations.

SUPRAMAR:

Strategically located at the Montevideo Free Port, Supramar was set up in 1994 and has 22,000 m² of indoor warehouse space in two different buildings; it offers comprehensive logistical services and provides added value services, including:

Logistical advice and solutions, warehousing, intermodal coordination, regional distribution, online IT support through which users can access in real time via Internet and check their stock, request a pickup, a load, an unload, storage, package mobilization, consolidation and deconsolidation of goods, container racking, just-in-time deliveries, packing, packed orders, subdivisions, labeling, tagging, repackaging, grouping, ungrouping, sorting, handling, shredding, mixing, heat shrink packaging, placement or replacement of electrical outlets, catalog inserts, control of product expiration time, remote billing to customers, special storage rooms with controlled temperature, added value rooms, special warehouses for hazardous goods and high value items, business services, trade & show rooms for promoting products.

Supramar can provide the following logistical advantages:

Goods efficient arrival to their final destinations.

Stock centralization in the region, which enables importers to immediately respond to the customers' needs and commit to just-in-time deliveries.

Reduction of distribution and transportation costs by shortening the distance to final customers, and by using maritime or land consolidated regular shipments.

Expansion of your customer base by enabling the delivery of small volumes therefore meeting the purchasing needs of smaller companies.

The regional importer will benefit from having a short distance supplier and thus, be able to better plan purchases and even fragment them.

Once the container has been placed at the warehouse gate, we provide minimum loading and unloading time, thus reducing clients' costs.

For more information, please visit our website www.supramar.com.uy