

The chapter on the water transport economy covers the costs of sea transport, freight costs price, freight owners' costs, maritime transport costs, the analysis of supply, demand and prime costs, the issues of subsidies and concession contracts in shipping, the definition of port prices, the issues related to the analysis of cost structure and economical port activities.

The chapter on air transport comprises the particular features of air transport and the economic issues of the air carriers' enterprises: long-time and short-time property, accounting of income and expenses, the analysis of regular and charter flights, the analysis of income and expenses of air companies. The economy of air transport infrastructure deals with the international policy of airport fees, the structure of airport fees and costs, the evaluation of air traffic service fees, concessions and calculation of taxes and fees in non-aviation activities, as well as the issues of the analysis of fee and tax definition principles.

The chapter on transport tariffs deals with the essential issues of economy related to the functions of tariffs, the tariff system, the analysis of supply and demand, the methods of setting the tariffs. In this chapter the order of definition and the application of tariffs, the tariff control, the regulation system of prices and tariffs, reduced tariffs, flexible tariffs, their supplements and are discounts are presented. Also the railway transport tariffs, air transportation tariffs, road transportation tariffs are separately analysed. Also the principles and methods of creation of the latter are presented here. Besides the transportation tariffs, the tariffs of passenger transportation by the road transport, reductions applied for using the road transport are analysed. Freight tariffs/valuation, sea

transport service fees and valuation, their structure, the main factors of tariff regulation, container valuation, seaport service fees and valuation are presented here as well. In a separate chapter the state regulation of prices is described.

This book contains principal and the most important issues of transport economy, as well as the evaluation of economic activities and infrastructure of enterprise. The manual methodically presents a comprehensive analysis of the issues based on statistical data and research results.

Topics, the scope of which is too large to be covered by the manual on transport economy, are included in the references, which may serve the students looking for additional material in other sources recommended.

The manual is elaborated by the lecturers of the Transport Management Department of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University on the basis of modern transport system achievements, market economy principles, interrelation of economic analysis methods with internal and external factors, microeconomic and macroeconomic frame. The analysis of the most important issues mentioned above is based on the contemporary requirements for the development and management of different transport modes and the strategic aspect of the integration into the European Union is observed. Therefore the commercial problems of large Lithuanian transport companies are related to the economic reform and restructuring.

From the objective point of view the manual has been elaborated properly. The material of the book is comprehensive and concrete, which makes it highly informative. The manual conforms to the contents of the education programme.

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REVIEW OF THE TEXTBOOK WRITTEN BY PROFESSOR RAMŪNAS PALŠAITIS "FUNDAMENTALS OF BUSINESS LOGISTICS"*

The textbook "Fundamentals of Business Logistics", written by professor Ramūnas Palšaitis appears as a very expected and useful publication. The lecturers and students were waiting for this publication for a long time, because till now we did not have such a systematized and particular monograph, which would analyse logistics and could be used for the logistics study process. By now, every known textbook and monograph of other authors was more or less acceptable for studying logistics, but in many cases it has some problematical points, it analyses only one point of the common logistics science, it is not of practical use and cannot be

applied for every day activities. In the textbook "Fundamentals of Business Logistics" written by professor Ramūnas Palšaitis we can find an orbicular view of the theoretical understanding of logistics and put it into practical use. Consequently, this publication could be useful for both students (during their study process) and businessmen in the business companies, who are active in the sphere of logistics.

The textbook "Fundamentals of Business Logistics" includes an introduction, ten chapters and the list of literature. In each part of the book the reader can find enough information, which can be useful for better understanding of the dif-

* FUNDAMENTALS OF BUSINESS LOGISTICS. Textbook. Vilnius: Technika, 2003. 268 p. ISBN 9986-05-627-6

ferent parts of logistics. The introduction into logistics, the products of logistics, supply chains, the management of the stores and resources, warehouses and distribution centres, transport and transportation, packing and keeping are the main issues of this textbook.

In the textbook "Fundamentals of Business Logistics" we can find very detailed description of the products of logistics. The author has properly described how some physical and conveyance parameters of some products can influence the logistical costs – keeping, packing and transporting. He has also analysed how "ABC" classification and law of "80/20" influence logistical system as well as what type of connection exists between logistics and marketing. In the chapter "Product of logistics" the central share of attention is given to the pack and packing. The author analyses the pack as the tool for keeping goods in order to avoid the influence of the environment. The author analyses a pack as an object that can influence the logistical operations and costs as well. According to him packing is very important not only for the goods keeping, but also for the transportation cost, for the operation in the warehouses and for the information systems.

In this publication readers can find very useful information concerning the rate of a product, INCOTERMS' conditions, and the answer to the question what factors have the biggest influence on the price of a product. A big part of this book is reserved for the warehouses therefore it analyses the activities of distribution centres. Readers can learn about different types of warehouses which activities are developed

in different types of distribution centres. There is the classification of stocks and the theory of management of the stocks in this book too. According to the author good services for clients, the understanding of their needs and keeping of high customer service standards are the things of the biggest importance in the process of logistics. The activities which allow to achieve these goals are analysed in "Fundamentals of Business Logistics" too.

The textbook "Fundamentals of Business Logistics" could be a source of scientific knowledge in transport engineering, transport management and other scientific domains as well as for masters' and doctoral studies. However, the biggest benefit of this publication is that it can be very useful for the transport management bachelors' studies. Students (reading this book) will gain the possibility to get basic and broad-brush knowledge on logistics and activities of logistics. This publication can be useful for managing transport enterprises and the enterprises of logistics as well. It is evident, that basic knowledge of logistics can be useful for better understanding of logistics systems working principles which are the most important for the work of the enterprise and for the communication between consumers and customers as well. This knowledge is very important knowing that logistics understanding level is generally low or incorrect in the business enterprises today. Therefore it could be said that "Fundamentals of Business Logistics" can improve the present situation.

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