



Council of Supply Chain
Management Professionals

Educating and Connecting the World's Supply Chain Professionals.™

MEET A MEMBER



Phil Ramsdale

Education:
Long Beach State BA in History

Company/Title:
Transport Solutions LLC/ President/Owner

When and why did you join CSCMP?

I joined in 2000 based on people I knew in the local SoCal Roundtable. I was seeking to increase my engagement in the industry. I liked their entrepreneurial approach and felt I could make a meaningful contribution. I thought it would get me out of my cave and broaden my perspective and contact base, which has proven true.

What advice do you have for new CSCMP members on how they can maximize their membership value?

CSCMP members should understand they will get back what they put into their membership as a multiple. Pick your spots, do fun stuff, meet people and help push things forward. Career growth will happen indirectly once you become known as a contributor and establish yourself as a thought leader and team player. You may get your next job or find that key employee (as I did) through CSCMP. Customers may find you. You will learn about areas adjacent to your primary field and that will deepen your knowledge base.

How did you get into supply chain management/logistics?

I got into Supply Chain when I started working at Federal Express before they became so huge. There were these flashy looking purple and red Falcons at Long Beach, CA Airport and I stopped in to see what was going on. My first job there was as a cargo handler, stuffing packages into the airplane while putting up cargo nets as my teammates tried to bury me!

Describe your job in a tweet (i.e. 140 characters or less)

My job is to help my team and our customers perform at a high level. Nothing else will sustain relationships and success over a long period of time. I hope people see me as someone they want on their team. If so, I can fulfill my goal to be a part of the solution.

#globalsupplychain #supplychainoptimization #globaltrade #supplychainoptimization #globalsupplychain
#freightcostreduction #cfo #ceo #cscmp

What are your top three job responsibilities?

My job responsibilities are:

1. Chart the future of the firm by learning what is possible
2. Oversee the quality of our work while leading and inspiring my team
3. Grow the business through building relationships with customers

What is the biggest challenge you face on the job, and how are you managing it?

My biggest challenge and opportunity is to consistently adhere to my personal motto, which is to “be part of the solution”. Everything else fits into this ethic.

What technologies, trends, or disruptive forces do you see having the biggest impact on supply chains?

AI/machine learning, blockchain, robotic workers, additive manufacturing (3D printing) and political headwinds are all capable of disrupting supply chains. I believe the influx of students with formal education in supply chain will have the biggest impact. Most of us got into the industry accidentally and found our way through OJT. Tomorrow’s leaders will push us further and faster.

If you were to start a company from scratch, what values would you build it on?

1. Respect and great communication with employees are vital to their success and yours by extension.
2. Customers are a tremendous resource if you really listen to them and can enable their dreams and objectives.
3. Think long term and never burn a bridge.
4. Do the job right and exceed expectations.
5. Operate in a financially sound manner without overextending.

What are you proudest of?

The longevity of the Transport Solutions @ 32 years supports the notion that we have succeeded in being “part of the solution”. We have been involved extensively with global projects, which has been fascinating. I would add that the success of others in my firm and other people I have mentored has been very satisfying.

If you could interview anyone, who would it be and why?

Elon Musk would be a great interview. He is kind of crazy sometimes, but I admire his courage to pursue things in a big way. His fascinating insights into technologies like AI (fears it), space travel, rockets, transportation, energy and more would be mind-expanding to experience first hand.

Write your own question and answer! What have we not asked that would be interesting for other CSCMP members to learn about you?

What do you like to do for fun besides hand out at CSCMP events? I like to keep active physically and in the community. This means working hard on my tennis game, supplementing with swimming, gym work, and skiing. I am involved at Long Beach State chairing their supply chain advisory board, mentoring students, expanding awareness of supply chain careers and supporting a youth and family services non-profit that operates in five counties. I enjoyed being a commissioner for Long Beach Airport and am following the progress of initiatives our group launched.