

NAI Global Logistics assists Wal-Mart with its 3.4 Million Square Foot MEGA Distribution Complex

Challenge:

Wal-Mart has been described as a logistics company disguised as a retailer. Due to port capacity, a declining driver pool, fuel costs and China's ongoing exponential growth, the retailer needed a solution. NAI Global Logistics assisted Wal-Mart in addressing these issues.

Approach:

NAI engaged in an extensive search for Wal-Mart and narrowed the search down to the CenterPoint Intermodal Center in Elwood, Illinois just southwest of Chicago. Wal-Mart utilized NAI Global Logistics resources to help with the site selection process including transportation analysis and market research. Both NAI and Wal-Mart worked together in analyzing multiple sites and modeling the best economic and business decision for the retailer. The results were very clear and the unique benefits of the CenterPoint Intermodal Center stood out in Wal-Mart's decision making process. The Intermodal Center is immediately adjacent with direct access to the 621-acre BNSF Logistics Park Chicago (LPC). The LPC projects to handle 1.4 million containers annually and has the potential to become the country's largest inland port. Trains are received directly into the LPC from the West Coast Ports and due to their proximity; Wal-Mart will be able to benefit from significant round-trip drayage savings. In addition, the park is well located with easy access to I-55 and I-80 for multi-state distribution and the site is a designated Foreign Trade Zone.

Results:

Located approximately 40 miles southwest of Chicago at the CenterPoint Intermodal Center. This will be the home of Wal-Mart's new 3.4 million square foot import distribution center. The complex will be comprised of two buildings of 1.6 million square feet and 1.8 million square feet. Construction has commenced with completion scheduled for summer 2006.

