

# Role of rail freight transport in European reshoring location decisions

Developing and Implementing Strategic Supply Chain and Manufacturing Footprint

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## **Agenda**



- 1 Profile BCI Global
- 2 Drivers for Reviewing Value Chains
- 3 Footprint Optimization: Global or Regional?
- 4 Location Selection criteria
- 5 Cases Rail transport for manufacturing & distribution flows
- 6 Conclusions and Q & A

## 1 Profile BCI Global



#### **Corporate clients**

- Manufacturing footprint strategy
- Location advice
- Supply chain optimization
- Business strategy development
- Strategic outsourcing
- Real estate strategy and projects

#### **Profile**

- Established in Nijmegen, the Netherlands in 1985
- Offices in
  - Europe: The Netherlands, London, Frankfurt
  - US: Atlanta, San Mateo, Los Angeles
  - Asia: Shanghai, Singapore
- 75 professionals
- Performed studies in more than 50 countries worldwide









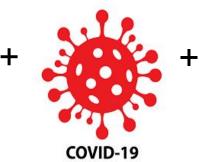


## 2 Drivers for Reviewing Value Chains



Uncertainties and risks have been increasing already for multiple years















Natural Gas Soars 700%, Becoming Driving Force in the New Cold War Bloomberg

+

Gas or renewables? With the world in an unprecedented energy crisis, top CEOs are searching for solutions

Global value chain interruptions have become a constant factor!

## **Drivers for Reviewing Value Chain Footprint**



### **Key Drivers**

### **Business growth** Internal Margin pressures Product phase in/out M&A activities **New competitors** Industry New mfg technologies **Customer requirements Sustainability Market shifts Geopolitics** External **New labor pools** Regulatory changes **Natural disasters**

### **Key Challenges**

Labor quality and availability

COGS/Total Cost to Serve

Agility/Flexibility

Uncertainty/Risk Mitigation

Transport/Carbon Footprint

### **Typical Trade-Offs**

**Relocate or Automate** 

Economies of Scale versus
Customer Proximity

Make or Buy

Sustainable Footprint / Using transport modalities

Expand at current or relocate to new low-cost location

**Cost vs Quality vs Risk** 

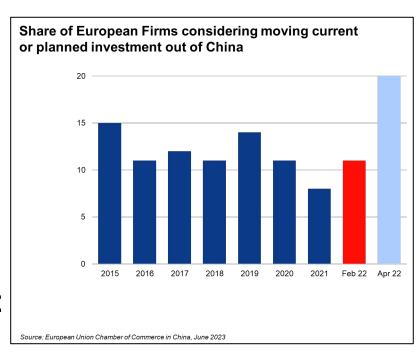
Source: BCI

# 3 Footprint Optimization: Global or Regional?



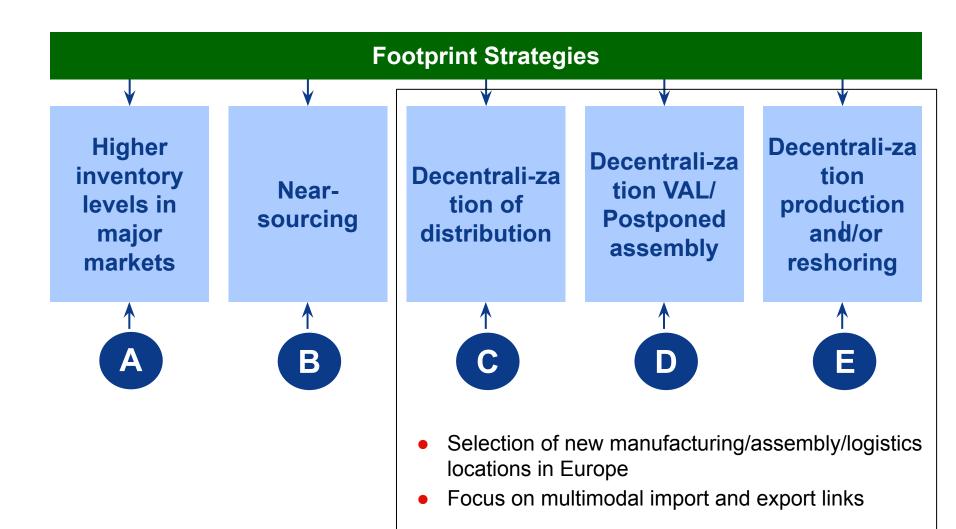
## **Multinationals follow the DE-strategy**

- 1 De-coupling Asia USA/Europe links
- 2 De-risking supply chains
- 3 De-single sourcing
- 4 De-centralizing production
- 5 De-carbonization transport



## **Five Footprint Strategies**





## There are clear strategic drivers for regionalization / decentralization .....



A Supply chain drivers	Supply risk	Mitigating the risk of being dependent on (critical) suppliers in a single region
	New Technologies	<ul> <li>New technologies such as 3D printing/Additive Manufacturing and other smart manufacturing technologies enable decentralized manufacturing</li> </ul>
<b>B</b> External disruption risks	Pandemic risk	<ul> <li>Covid-19 effect: mitigating the risk / limiting the impact of value chain disruption through (new) lock-downs</li> </ul>
	Trade barrier risk	<ul> <li>Mitigating the risk / limiting the impact of value chain disruption through trade tariffs and other trade barriers (like restricting regulations, sanctions)</li> </ul>
	Governmental push	<ul> <li>Governments pushing for sourcing of critical products in or close to market (medical equipment, medicines, food, critical an/or new technologies, etc.)</li> </ul>
C Strategic customer benefits	"Made in" advantage	<ul> <li>Business value of manufacturing in perceived high quality / reliable countries (e.g. "Made in USA", "Made in Germany")</li> </ul>

## Decentralization of manufacturing/assembly/ logistics is easier said than done



## Barriers companies need to overcome to successfully decentralize and/or re-shore manufacturing



Costs

- Cost differential with off-shore location?
- (partly) Double costs for labor, real estate, materials?
- Reducing transport costs by using different modalities?



Supplier Base/ Supply Chain

- Availability of relevant suppliers?
- Availability of relevant knowledge/technology?
- More complicated supply chain?



Labor

- Size of the local workforce?
- Availability of specific knowledge & experience?



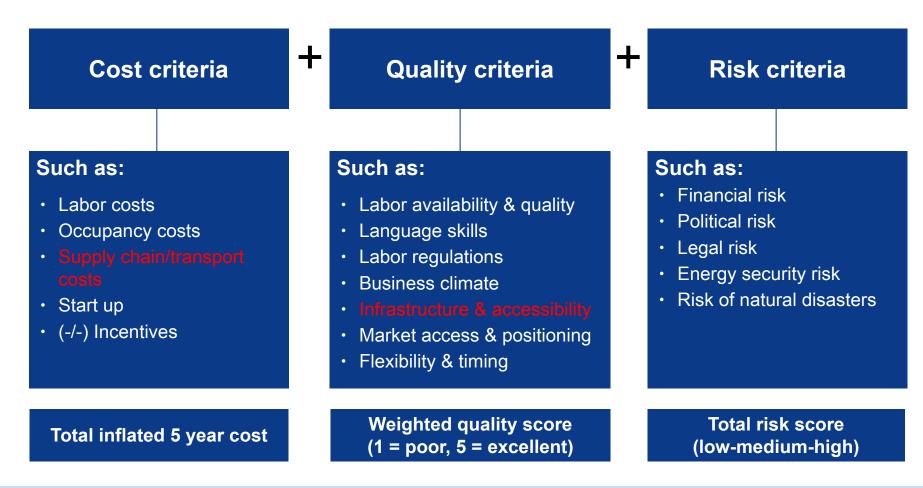
Markets

- Where are the highest growth markets?
- Can they be supported from the decentral location?
- Can different modalities by used in a reliable way?

## 4 Location Selection criteria



In our site selection approach we use cost, quality and risk criteria to develop a complete assessment of regions & locations

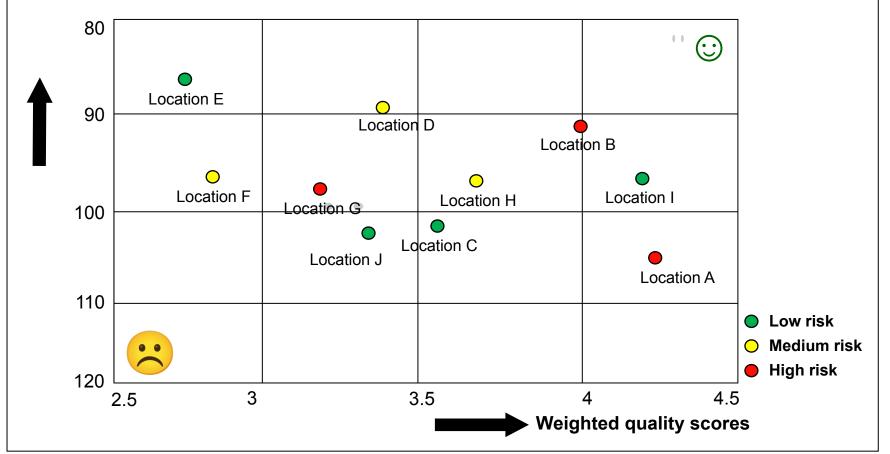


## **Cost-Quality-Risk matrix of 10 locations**



**Example**: Project specific site selection results for a production plant in perspective: cost-quality-risk assessment

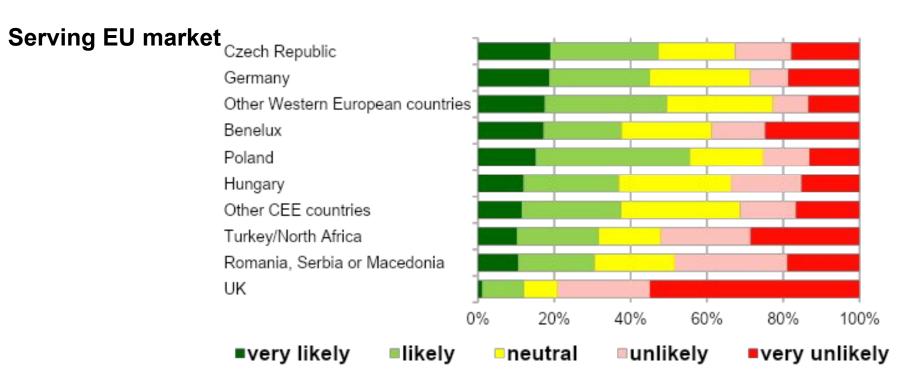
Total costs in million USD/Euro for first 5 years (all operating costs -/- investment incentives)



# 5 Cases – Rail transport for manufacturing & distribution flows



### Geographical locations considered for reshoring / decentralization



Source: BCI Survey, 2022

## Case 1 Car battery production - Incorporating supply chain network resilience



### **Approach**

How to optimize transport network based on cost, service and risk?

Selection of multimodal locations

Use of resilient transport links

#### Multimodal links to car battery production locations







### Takeaways of business

**62**\$\textit{\textit{g}}\text{ up of manufacturing facilities in Europe: selection of multimodal accessible locations

- Resilience: both continental and maritime silk roads can be used for raw materials supply
- European car makers factories can be delivered through rail and road transport
- Investments in European multimodal rail facilities in ports on maritime silk road: shared financial costs
- Investment in European rail terminal infrastructure will provide further opportunities for using rail freight transport

## Case 2 Fresh produce distribution – supply chain cost reduction and resilience



#### **Approach**

How to distribute fresh produce in Europe reliable and cost effective?

Set up of 3x/week rail service Spain - North

Future potential for fresh silk road

#### **Cool Rail Europe**







Source: Euro Pool System sustainability report 2021

#### Takeaways of business

and Northern Europe, 3x /week

- Shuttle combines fresh produce in reefers and other loading units (e.g. tank containers)
- Balance in north-south trade by combining different cargo flows
- Due to energy crisis, Dutch producers/retailers are rethinking supply chains: e.g. Spain instead of production outside Europe
- Cool Rail Europe network is growing step by step, potential for fresh silk road connection in future

## 6 Conclusions and Q & A



- Many companies are complementing decentralization of manufacturing and distribution activities to answers several crisis situations.
- The strategy for manufacturing and distribution footprint locations will continue to be highly challenging.
- Resilience of supply chains is the main driver in footprint location selection: different trade and transport scenarios should be supported.
- The optimal manufacturing and distribution footprint as well as locations are more and more bases on multimodal transport solutions for (inter-) continental im- and export flows

#### **Questions & Answers**