# ASCM Online Learning Materials

The following supply-chain management learning materials are available at the ASCM Supply Chain Learning Center. They are presented as online subscriptions (90 days) for a fee of USD $150.00 (general public) or USD $75.00 (ASCM members). These courses allow attendees to set their own pace as they engage with assigned reading, video highlights, and activities. Course participants also can earn APICS certification maintenance points. To access these materials, go to ASCM.org and find “Principles on Demand” within “Learning & Development.”

**Available to the general public and ASCM members:**

**Basics of Distribution and Logistics:** Distribution and logistics functions must solve problems involving time, place, delivery, and levels of service. This course introduces the fundamental concepts required to create an optimal distribution and logistics strategy. Learn why distribution channels are so important. Be able to describe different channel design models. Explain tradeoffs between different channel network designs, including customer response time, product variety, product availability, and delivery time. Explore inventory management and its function in distribution and logistics.

**Basics of Inventory Management:** Whether you are a materials manager, buyer/purchaser, inventory planner, or simply need to understand inventory, this course introduces the fundamental concepts. Learn to explain to colleagues how inventory objectives must be balanced with the needs of the organization. Discover the decisions that effective inventory managers make. Gain knowledge of how inventory accuracy is maintained; apply that knowledge to create an impact.

**Basics of Managing Operations:** Strategic supply-chain managers understand the importance of mastering organizational process management and control. This course introduces the fundamental concepts and decision-making tools required for managing operations. Learn to describe how the management of processes and operations is affected by product volume, service requirements, variety, demand variation, and visibility. Also discover the principles of effective product and service design. Gain knowledge of valuable project management models that you can apply to projects and to daily operations.

**Available to ASCM members only:**

The following materials are included in ASCM’s Digital Library, a resource available only to ASCM members. The Digital Library is a comprehensive database of supply-chain content and resources produced by ASCM staff, affiliates, and members. The Digital Library includes hundreds of presentations on topics including business process analysis/improvement, customer support, distribution management, information management, inventory management, material handling, purchasing, and transportation management. To become an ASCM Member, go to ASCM.org and click on “Join/Renew.”

**APICS Special-Focus Forums: Strengthening Global Health and Humanitarian Supply Chains:** A diverse group of interested stakeholders from the international donor and humanitarian assistance sector as well as established global commercial companies make up this APICS Special-Focus Forum. Their purpose will be to engage commercial companies, international businesses, government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and academia in identifying solutions to some of the most pervasive challenges facing health and humanitarian supply chains, particularly those in low- and middle-income countries. — 09/27/2016 Clinton de Souza

**Kaizen as a Way of Life:** This session explores the real-world use of Kaizen as a lean tool and its importance to the overall health of an organization. From front line personnel to the boardroom, people are exposed to problems at a constant pace, yet little is done to address and alleviate those issues on a regular basis. Why don’t we just fix the processes that are broken? Many reasons exist for this: hidden agendas, the differing backgrounds and experiences of the people involved, a lack of training, time constraints, and sometimes a deep-seated fear of change. The biggest factor, however, is a lack of clear understanding of who must do what, why they should do it, and when they must complete the task. So what do we do? We implement a controlled system of constant continuous improvement: Kaizen. Gain new insight into this Japanese philosophy that focuses on continual improvement throughout all aspects of life. — 10/15/2017  Bob Rush

**Keep Up the Good Work: Advancing Humanitarian Supply Chains:** Managing a commercial supply chain is important work; managing a humanitarian supply chain can actually affect the welfare of people who need speedy arrival of food, medicine, and other life-saving resources. During this presentation, a humanitarian supply chain expert will discuss strategies for ensuring supplies are delivered where they're needed, improvisation and contingency planning, pre-positioning, and essential knowledge-sharing between disaster responders and private-sector professionals. — 10/21/2014 Pat Santos

**Methods for Improving Warehousing and Logistics Activities:** Perhaps the most critical aspect of warehousing and logistics is the distribution phase. Therefore, this educational session will discuss methods for developing a logistics strategy that involves making smart decisions about the levels of desired Customer Relations, the amount of inventory to carry, and techniques for moving product efficiently. The presenter will discuss the velocity of change brought about by the customer, technology enhancements, cost issues, and the impact of globalization. Methods for advancing warehouse management systems, systems integration, intermodal transportation methods, network optimization, and more will be explored. Participants will leave with a greater understanding of numerous key concepts, such as warehouse storage principles, roles and types of packaging, getting the most out of automation, and proper stock receiving. — 09/25/2016 Gary Landis, CFPIM, CIRM, CSCP

**The Public Health Care Logistics Landscape:** Logistics professionals can play a unique and important role in public health care by aiding and advancing current offerings. This educational session will show you how you can make a meaningful difference to people in need by improving public health care around the world. The presenter will explore the efforts of both governments and non-governmental organizations to provide health care in emerging nations. You will learn how modern logistics practices are furthering the public health care landscape and delivering essential treatments to people who need them. — 10/07/2015  Irvin Varkonyi, CSCP, PLog