

## QSO 635 Final Project Guidelines and Rubric

### Overview

The final project in this course will consist of a comprehensive location justification report.

As organizations expand, project managers apply supply chain management concepts to inform their recommendations specific to international initiatives. Factors such as location constraints, manufacturing and warehousing strategies, and quality best practices are all considerations that drive an international expansion project forward. This course will cover supply chain management concepts that align with the Institute of Supply Management (ISM) Certified Professional in Supply Management (CPSM). Your goal in this assessment is to deliver a location justification report that recommends the location of a new facility for an organization seeking to expand internationally. In addition, you will be recommending the most appropriate supply chain management processes for the new facility in both manufacturing and warehousing and defending those recommendations.

For this final project, you will select **one** organization from the following three options:

- Caterpillar (CAT)
- Walmart (WMT)
- Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT)

The organization you select is seeking to expand internationally to either **Russia** or **South Korea**. You are tasked with recommending **one** country that will house a new manufacturing/warehousing facility. It is presumed that the warehouse will be at the same site as the manufacturing facility. Note that for this project you should use the existing product that the organization you select currently offers. (You do not need to come up with a new product). Since these organizations may offer a variety of products or services, narrow it down by selecting a high-level product line (e.g., food products, industrial equipment, electronics, communications, etc.). If you select NTT Group, which provides a service, focus on the product required to provide that service.

The project is divided into **three milestones**, which will be submitted at various points throughout the course to scaffold learning and ensure quality final submissions. These milestones will be submitted in **Modules Three, Five, and Seven**. The final submission is due in **Module Nine**.

In this assignment you will demonstrate your mastery of the following course outcomes:

- Analyze current business planning functions of an expanding organization for informing organizational logistics that reduce cost and increase delivery across the supply chain
- Recommend an international facility location for an expanding organization based on the application of the factor rating method
- Determine various constraints associated with international facilities for promoting continuous transition of manufactured products through supply chain management systems
- Recommend appropriate warehousing strategies that promote cost savings and meet customer needs in an international organization

- Recommend best practices to effectively manage logistics within the international supply chain of an expanding organization

## Prompt

For this assessment, you will create a location justification report that recommends the location of a new manufacturing and warehouse facility for an organization that is expanding internationally. In the report, you will recommend and defend manufacturing and warehousing supply chain management strategies for this new facility.

Specifically, the following **critical elements** must be addressed:

- I. **Organization Analysis:** In this section, you will analyze an organization's current business planning functions to help inform the logistics of a new international facility.
  - A. Identify the **material requirement planning system** being used by the organization, and explain how this system is currently being utilized to reduce cost and increase delivery across the supply chain.
  - B. Explain how **forecasting, capacity planning, and scheduling** are being used as planning functions within the current system mentioned above, using specific examples.
  - C. Explain how the organization can use **current planning functions** to reduce investments in preparation of an international expansion, using specific examples.
- II. **Facility Location:** In this section, you will recommend the location site for the organization's new international facility. You will use the factor rating method to support your recommendation.
  - A. Determine the most **important factors** that will affect your location decision, and explain why each is important from an international supply chain management perspective.
  - B. Assign a weight to each factor according to its priority to the organization, and explain why you **ranked each factor** in this manner.
  - C. Recommend the preferred location of the new facility and support your recommendation with findings from the **factor rating method**.
- III. **Constraints:** In this section, you will consider various constraints associated with your recommended location. In addition, you will identify the most appropriate system to help minimize the impact these constraints will have on the operation of the new facility.
  - A. Determine potential **bottlenecking issues** within the selected system, and explain how these could be avoided.
  - B. Determine **transportation constraints** that may exist in the recommended facility location, and explain how the organization could minimize the impact of these constraints.
  - C. Determine if a **push or pull system** is more appropriate for operating the new facility, and explain how the previously identified constraints influence this decision.
- IV. **Warehousing Strategies:** In this section, you will recommend warehousing strategies that promote cost savings of the new facility and will meet customer needs in your recommended location.
  - A. Recommend industry standard methods that the organization should use to efficiently operate its warehouse, and explain how this approach can promote **cost savings** for the organization.
  - B. Explain how the recommended methods meet **customer needs** at the new facility location, using specific examples.

- C. Explain the benefits of having the warehouse in the **same location** as the manufacturing facility, including how this will help to promote cost savings and meet customer needs.
- V. **Quality Best Practices:** In this section, you will recommend best practices aimed toward effectively managing logistics of the new international facility that will ensure process quality.
  - A. Determine appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to **manufacturing**, and explain why this is appropriate for the new facility.
  - B. Determine appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to **warehousing**, and explain why this is appropriate for the new facility.
  - C. Defend how these combinations of **best practices** promote process quality across the entire facility, using specific examples.

## Milestones

These assignments will ensure timely and effective progress toward the completion of your final project.

### Milestone One: Organization Analysis and Facility Location

In **Module Three**, you will respond to questions regarding the organization's current planning systems and potential international facility location. This is intended to help you get started with the critical elements for the final project. Responding to the guided questions will help you begin to develop ideas about course concepts in relation to the Organization Analysis and Facility Location critical elements within your final project. **This milestone is graded with the Milestone One Rubric.**

### Milestone Two: Constraints

In **Module Five**, you will respond to questions regarding the constraints associated with bottlenecking issues and transportation. This is intended to help you get started with the critical elements for the final project. Responding to the guided questions will help you begin to develop ideas about course concepts in relation to the Constraints critical elements within your final project. **This milestone is graded with the Milestone Two Rubric.**

### Milestone Three: Warehousing Strategies

In **Module Seven**, you will respond to questions regarding potential warehousing strategies. This is intended to help you get started with the critical elements for the final project. Responding to the guided questions will help you begin to develop ideas about course concepts in relation to the Warehousing Strategies critical elements within your final project. **This milestone is graded with the Milestone Three Rubric.**

### Final Submission: Location Justification Report

In **Module Nine**, you will submit your complete location justification report, which includes Quality Best Practices critical elements. It should be a complete, polished artifact containing **all** of the critical elements of the final product. This project should reflect the incorporation of feedback you have received throughout the course. **This final submission will be graded using the Final Project Rubric.**

## Deliverables

Milestone	Deliverable	Module Due	Grading
One	<i>Organization Analysis and Facility Location</i>	Three	Graded separately; Milestone One Rubric
Two	<i>Constraints</i>	Five	Graded separately; Milestone Two Rubric
Three	<i>Warehousing Strategies</i>	Seven	Graded separately; Milestone Three Rubric
	Final Submission: <i>Location Justification Report</i>	Nine	Graded separately; Final Project Rubric

## Final Project Rubric

**Guidelines for Submission:** Your location justification report should be 12 to 15 pages in length (not including title or reference pages) and use 12-point Times New Roman font, double spacing, and one-inch margins. It should follow the most recent APA guidelines for formatting and references.

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (90%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
<b>Organizational Analysis: Material Requirement Planning System</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp of how the current system reduces cost and increases delivery across the supply chain	Identifies the material requirement planning system being used by the organization, and explains how this system is currently being utilized to reduce cost and increase delivery across the supply chain	Identifies the material requirement planning system being used by the organization and explains how this system is currently being utilized to reduce cost and increase delivery across the supply chain, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not identify the material requirement planning system being used by the organization	6.33
<b>Organization Analysis: Forecasting, Capacity Planning, and Scheduling</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp of how forecasting, capacity planning, and scheduling are being used as planning functions within the current requirement planning system	Explains how forecasting, capacity planning, and scheduling are being used as planning functions within the current system mentioned above, using specific examples	Explains how forecasting, capacity planning, and scheduling are being used as planning functions within the current system mentioned above, using specific examples, but examples are inappropriate	Does not explain how forecasting, capacity planning, and scheduling are being used as planning functions	6.33

<b>Organization Analysis: Current Planning Functions</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and examples provided demonstrates a complex grasp into how the organization can use current planning functions to reduce investments	Explains how the organization can use current planning functions to reduce investments in preparation for an international expansion, using specific examples	Explains how the organization can use current planning functions to reduce investments in preparation for an international expansion, using specific examples, but examples are inappropriate	Does not explain how the organization can use current planning functions to reduce investments in preparation for an international expansion	6.33
<b>Facility Location: Important Factors</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp into why important factors affect location decisions	Determines the most important factors that affect facility location decisions and explains why each is important from an international supply chain management perspective	Determines the most important factors that affect facility location decisions and explains why each is important from an international supply chain management perspective, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not determine the most important factors that affect facility location decisions	6.33
<b>Facility Location: Ranking Each Factor</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp into why certain factors are more of a priority than others to the organization	Assigns a weight to each factor according to its priority to the organization, and explains why each factor was ranked in this manner	Assigns a weight to each factor according to its priority to the organization and explains why each factor was ranked in this manner, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not assign a weight to each factor according to its priority to the organization	6.33
<b>Facility Location: Factor Rating Method</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and recommendation demonstrates a sophisticated application the factor rating method	Recommends the preferred location of the new facility and supports this recommendation with findings from the factor rating method	Recommends the preferred location of the new facility but does not support recommendations using findings from the factor rating method, or findings contain inaccuracies	Does not recommend the preferred location of the new facility	6.33
<b>Constraints: Bottlenecking Issues</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp of how bottlenecking issues could be avoided	Determines potential bottlenecking issues within the selected system and explains how these could be avoided	Determines potential bottlenecking issues within the selected system and explains how these could be avoided, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not determine potential bottlenecking issues within the selected system	6.33

<b>Constraints: Transportation Constraints</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp into how the organization could minimize transportation constraints at the recommended facility location	Determines transportation constraints that may exist in the recommended facility location and explains how the organization could minimize the impact of these constraints	Determines transportation constraints that may exist in the recommended facility location and explains how the organization could minimize the impact of these constraints, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not determine transportation constraints that may exist in the recommended facility location	6.33
<b>Constraints: Push or Pull System</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanations demonstrates a complex grasp into how constraints influence decisions around selecting the most appropriate operating system	Determines if a push or pull system is more appropriate for operating the new facility and explains how the previously identified constraints influence this decision	Determines if a push or pull system is more appropriate for operating the new facility, and explains how the previously identified constraints influence this decision, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not determine if a push or pull system is more appropriate for operating the new facility	6.33
<b>Warehousing Strategies: Cost Savings</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp into how industry standard methods can promote cost savings within an organization by efficiently operating its warehouse	Recommends industry standard methods that the organization should use to efficiently operate its warehouse and explains how this approach can promote cost savings for the organization	Recommends industry standard methods that the organization should use to efficiently operate its warehouse and explains how this approach can promote cost savings for the organization, but explanation is cursory or illogical	Does not recommend industry standard methods that the organization should use to efficiently operate its warehouse	6.33
<b>Warehousing Strategies: Customer Needs</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and examples provided demonstrates a complex grasp into how the recommended methods meet customer needs at the new facility location	Explains how the recommended methods meet customer needs at the new facility location, using specific examples	Explains how the recommended methods meet customer needs at the new facility location, using specific examples, but examples are inappropriate	Does not explain how the recommended methods meet customer needs at the new facility location	6.33

<b>Warehousing Strategies: Same Location</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp on the benefits to having the warehouse in the same location as the manufacturing facility	Explains the benefits of having the warehouse in the same location as the manufacturing facility and includes how this will help to promote cost savings and meeting customer needs	Explains the benefits of having the warehouse in the same location as the manufacturing facility and includes how this will help to promote cost savings and meeting customer needs, but explanation is cursory or illogical	Does not explain the benefits of having the warehouse in the same location as the manufacturing facility	6.33
<b>Quality Best Practices: Manufacturing</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanation demonstrates a complex grasp into why quality best practices related to manufacturing are appropriate for the new facility	Determines appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to manufacturing and explains why this is appropriate for the new facility	Determines appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to manufacturing and explains why this is appropriate for the new facility, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not determine appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to manufacturing	6.33
<b>Quality Best Practices: Warehousing</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and explanations demonstrate a complex grasp into why quality best practices related to warehousing are appropriate for the new facility	Determines appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to warehousing and explains why this is appropriate for the new facility	Determines appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to warehousing and explains why this is appropriate for the new facility, but explanation is cursory or contains inaccuracies	Does not determine appropriate quality best practices that should be used to manage logistics related to warehousing	6.33
<b>Quality Best Practices: Best Practices</b>	Meets “Proficient” criteria and examples provided demonstrate a complex grasp into how these combinations of best practices promote process quality across the entire facility	Defends how the combinations of best practices promote process quality across the entire facility, using specific examples	Defends how the combinations of best practices promote process quality across the entire facility, using specific examples, but examples are inappropriate	Does not defend how the combinations of best practices promote process quality across the entire facility	6.33
<b>Articulation of Response</b>	Submission is free of errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, and organization and is presented in a professional and easy-to-read format	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	5.05

		Total	100%
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