WALMART SUPPLY CHAIN

As customers change the way they shop, we’re changing the way we operate to meet that demand and deliver on our promise of having the items customers want when they want them – whether that’s in-store, delivered to their home or even in their refrigerator.

We’re transforming our business by making strategic investments in automation that helps our customers and associates, creating a more connected supply chain that increases capacity and enhances the accuracy and speed of fulfillment.
PEOPLE-LED, TECH-POWERED

We think the investments we are making in automation will improve the shopping experience for our customers & members & the experience for our associates. Over time, we believe that we will have the same or more associates but in jobs that are less manual than they are today & better designed to serve our customers & members.

“*I never thought I’d be working 19 years later with this robot here. Now I’m part of the future at Walmart.*”

JOSE V.
Cell Operator, DC #6020, Brooksville, FL

“When we used to unload floor loaded trailers, the labor was about 2 hours per truck. Now (because of this new technology), I can get them unloaded in under an hour. It’s helpful because my associates who used to be tied to the back can now come to the store floor where they can learn more, helping them grow as an associate.”

JORDAN D.
Team Lead, Store #3526, Brooksville, FL

“It’s amazing to see everything we have here at ORDI with the automation systems because my team doesn’t have to walk that much to do the job.”

NOEMI R.
Inbound Operations Manager, FC #3040, Joliet, IL

“I still remember when we used to label every single case that needed to get to the stores. Fast forward 24 years later and now this new automated system labels all my pallets. I am grateful for the technology Walmart has implemented.”

JUAN T.
Unloader Processor, DC #8852, Shafter, CA

COMPETITIVE PAY:
Associates can make up to $34/hour starting pay in supply chain facilities.

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES:
From tuition-free degrees & trainings from Live Better U & Walmart Academies to driver development via the Associate-to-Driver program, associates can learn new skills & prepare for the next step in their careers.
WHAT IS IT?

42
Walmart operates 42 regional distribution centers (RDCs), facilities that receive non-refrigerated merchandise from suppliers (i.e. toilet paper, pasta sauce & crackers) & ships them to our more than 4,700 stores.

Over the coming years, Walmart will retrofit all 42 RDCs with automation, updating and re-investing in buildings as old as 40 years with state-of-the-art technology.

The technology used in RDCs automates what was formerly a physically demanding, manual process. It combines people, robotics & massive storage systems to increase the speed at which we send merchandise to stores.

WHAT MAKES IT SPECIAL?

2x
An automated RDC can ship nearly double the number of cases as compared to a traditional RDC.

560K
In an automated RDC, 560K cases can be shipped each day with minimal case handling by associates. Prior to automation, associates manually handled up to 300K cases per day.

2x
The unique design of the automated storage & retrieval system increases the volume of product an RDC can hold by 2x.

WHAT WE’RE PROUD OF:

We’ve seen a significant reduction in turnover in automated RDCs. This is a result of evolving two of the most physically demanding roles in a traditional RDC – trailer loaders & case lot order fillers – into tech-enabled jobs such as cell operators, systems operators & maintenance technicians.

Automated RDCs enhance the customer experience by providing a more consistent, predictable, & higher quality delivery service to our stores, allowing us to react more quickly to customer demand.

The technology’s benefits are also felt by our store associates. Thanks to machine learning, the bots efficiently stack cases by department, so that when the merchandise arrives to stores, associates spend significantly less time unloading & sorting trailers, freeing them up to spend more time helping customers.