

ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF REVERSE LOGISTICS

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In the context of globalization, it is difficult to overestimate the role of green logistics, which core components comprise return flows. This fact elucidates a close connection with reverse logistics.

Reverse logistics is a process of planning, implementation and control of material flows and related information from the consumer back to the distributor, manufacturer and supplier for the purpose of returning value or proper disposal. In addition it can include such management ways as recovery, remanufacturing and recycling. Reverse logistics is also understood as a concept for the competent management of waste as flows, taking into account the economic and social spheres.

Now "zero-waste" concept is gaining popularity and intends manufacturing without waste. Responsible attitude of manufacturers to the environment and the future of the country is crucial for successful development and the opportunity not only to cut costs, but also to rise the consumer's loyalty.

The logistics of secondary materials is associated with their transformation and transportation from the occurrence to production. What is more, the reverse flows of a definite production can become direct for another one which will use them as raw materials.

The development of rational reverse logistics processes contributes to increase of the involvement of secondary resources in production and has a positive influence on the environmental situation. In many developed countries (Germany, South Korea, UK) commercial organizations are engaged in the processing, recycling and movement of secondary resources, this activity is encouraged by the government.

Drawing attention to the importance of recycling and secondary use leads to the worldwide restructuring of industries, which will undoubtedly have a positive effect on the health of the environment.