



ECONOMICS – frequently asked questions

How important is the express industry to the UK economy?

- The express industry transports over £8.5 billion of UK exports each year.
- 64% of firms consider next-day express delivery services to be very important to meeting their commitments to clients.
- 87% of companies require their suppliers to deliver certain shipments to them by express delivery.
- Around 40% of companies frequently require either sub-components or spare parts next-day
- Over 40% of UK firms would have to hold increased inventories if next-day delivery were no longer available, increasing their costs.
- 32% of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) expect that they would lose orders if next-day international delivery services were no longer available.
- Good access to markets is the most important factor influencing international location decisions. Without guaranteed international next-day delivery, our survey suggests that 16% of UK firms would possibly have to relocate overseas.

Q What sectors used the express industry

- The services provided by the express industry are used by companies across the spectrum of UK plc – in fact the entire FTSE 100.
- Of the top 50 customers of the integrators the most important client sector is electronics/telecoms at 27% of “top 50” sales income, followed by the vehicle and auto parts sector at about 15% of sales. A number of other leading “growth sectors”, such as IT, pharmaceuticals, financial and business services, are also among the leading clients of the express industry.

How many jobs does the express industry support in the UK?

- 23, 000 directly and an additional 31, 000 indirectly.
- Allowing for impacts through the supply chain, the express industry helps to support at least 54,000 jobs in the UK

Q Is the express industry a luxury – do we really need fresh flowers and food delivered at night?

- Glad you asked that.
- The express industry serves the whole community and helps create jobs and prosperity. It also opens up markets to British business and less developed countries. Do we really want to stop Kenya exporting fresh mangoes? The express industry helps to expand trade with the UK's overseas partners.

Q Would express operators leave the UK market if increased restrictions were applied?

- Express operators would be forced to relocate to other markets, primarily to the UK's competitors, if they could no longer operate effectively in the UK because of restrictions at night.