

Horn of Africa

Starting up an SPV Platform in the Horn of Africa

Situation

In 2017, the US Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and US Military responded to a security outbreak in the Horn of Africa region. This emergency deployment increased both entities' regional footprint and incorporated several new locations. A reliable and rapidly deployable SPV platform with supply chain management and logistics was urgently required to support the on-going mission.

Solution

As Prime Vendor under the US's DLA Troop Support Department, our European and Dubai-based teams mobilized immediately to import fresh food, fruit, and vegetables as well as water and assorted drinks into the theatre by air and sea.

Our Project Management team deployed within two weeks and built our state-of-the-art rapid deployable warehouse solution in a war zone. To extend regional reach, we established a logistics hub in Oman to support the SPV platform. The US Military PHC team approved both the warehouse and hub in only a few weeks.

For Supply Chain Management, our Logistics team created an air and sea bridge connecting CONUS to our OCONUS-based SPV platforms to service the Horn of Africa theatre.

Result

EFS created, delivered, and maintained a dedicated and secure area of over 1,000 m² of PHC-approved cold chain warehouse space in theatre and over 3,000 m² in Oman, with additional facility and delivery assets in Djibouti, Kenya, and UAE. For dry goods and container storage, our 2,500 m² warehouse keeps supplies on-site and accessible.

Each unit features water- and shatter-proof lighting, temperature-controlled buffer rooms, emergency exits, smoke detectors, three power points, and full insulation for temperature and pest control. Our MHE and 250Kva generator provides consistent emergency backup power to maintain supply integrity.

Our dedicated delivery truck fleet with multiple temperature capabilities moved inventory throughout the theatre using security-vetted personnel. To move orders efficiently and effectively, we positioned our cargo aircraft in theatre to perform weekly deliveries. We dispatched the first inbound cargo from USA, and Oman only a few weeks after the initial request. For the several remote locations throughout the Horn of Africa, first orders were received just 45 days after request approval. For in-theatre orders, we delivered each within seven days of order receipt.

We've now flown over 300 air missions to date, delivering from the USA, Europe, and the Middle East into the Horn of Africa, distributing throughout the Horn of Africa theatre and remote mission locations.