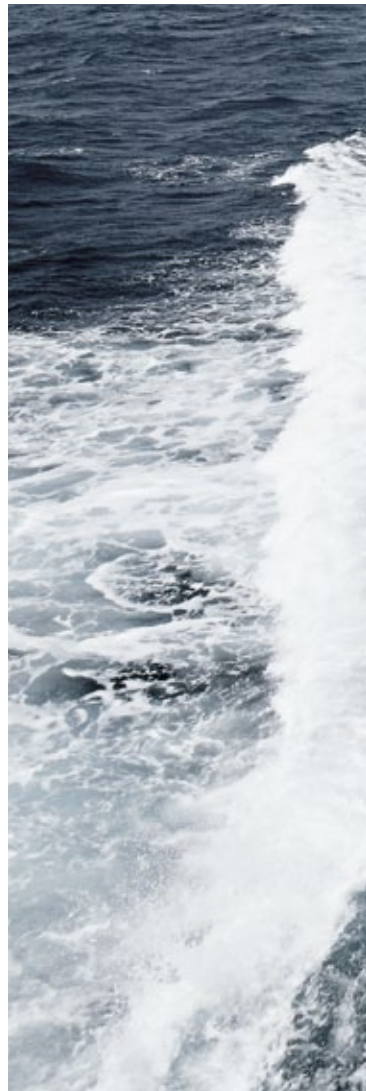
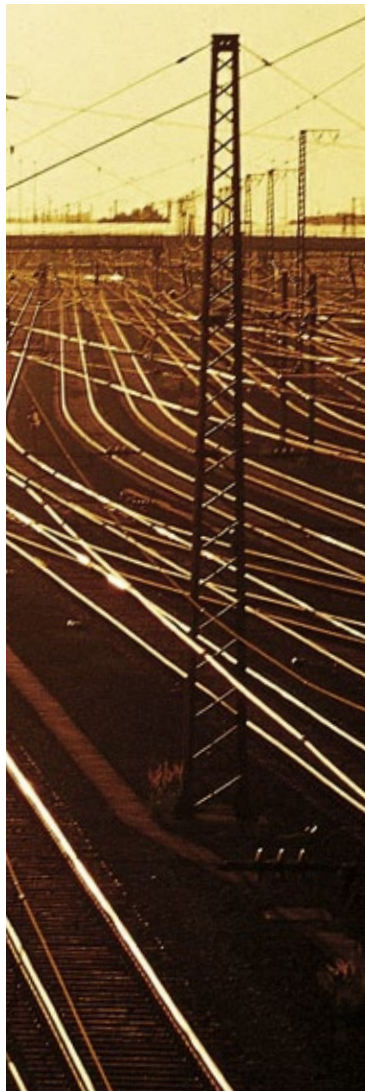
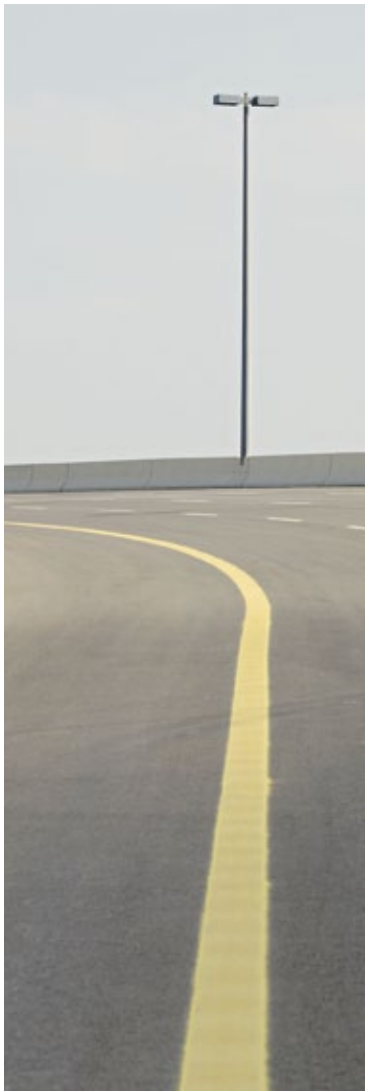


HERE ARE THE ALTERNATIVES

It has to be fast. It has to be cheap. It has to be flexible. And it mustn't harm the environment. The transport of goods worldwide presents major challenges to logisticians. Each means of transport, whether the railways or aeroplanes, lorries or ships, has its own advantages. Hermes' skill is to combine them, because logistics is like love. It's less fun alone!





*A newly built road in Abu Dhabi.
Road transport is flexible but harmful
to the environment*



Positive:

- Faster and lower-risk transport, whereby there is less chance of the goods being damaged
- Reliable
- Flexibility through the use of different equipment and super structures
- Virtually everywhere can be reached by road
- Vehicle capacity can be adjusted to needs
- Reduction of environmental impact through efficient loading of vehicles, intelligent route planning and avoidance of empty kilometres

Negative:

- Emissions of nitrogen oxides and soot particles
- Noise pollution from lorries
- Limited road capacities
- Traffic jams when road use is heavy

By comparison:

At 65 grams per tonne-kilometre, CO₂ emissions are three times higher than those of the railways and five times higher than with ships.



Positive:

- Low emissions
- Best environmental balance of all transport modes
- Various forms of cooperation between road and rail to optimise environmental protection and logistics
- Not affected by driving bans on Sundays and holidays

Negative:

- Further transport from station to the final customer needed
- Limited capacity of the railway network
- Inflexible timetables
- Delays owing to priority given to passenger transport
- Cutbacks at railway sidings and marshalling yards

By comparison:

21 grams of CO₂ are emitted per tonne-kilometre.



Railway tracks at Munich Central Station. Rail transport is environmentally friendly but inflexible

Close to the Cyclades in the Aegean.
Maritime transport is cheap but slow



Positive:

- The most efficient and cheapest mode of transport
- Can be used worldwide
- Able to transport large and bulk goods
- Effective connections with rail and road transport at ports

Negative:

- The slowest mode of transport
- Increase in pollutants through sulphur and soot particle emission with the use of inferior quality fuel
- Affected by weather conditions and high and low tides
- Expensive seaworthy external packaging (containers, etc.) needed
- Transport only to the port, further transport by rail or road needed

By comparison:

Ships emit 13 grams of CO₂ per tonne-kilometre.

Aeroplanes

are underexploited in Germany,
but internationally around
1% of goods is transported by air;
in terms of the value
of goods, however, this share
rises to 40%

Positive:

- Large distances can be covered in a relatively short time
- Safe mode of transport
- Very reliable
- Few weather-related restrictions
- Transport of perishable or seasonal goods or time-sensitive consignments

Negative:

- Very high CO₂ emissions
- Very high transport costs
- Limitations: number of airports, number of aircraft an airport can handle, freight capacity
- Take-off and landing times are often limited by night flying bans; noise pollution
- Only rarely are goods transported to the final customer; other transport modes must take over

By comparison:

An aeroplane emits 801 grams of CO₂ per tonne-kilometre, twelve times more than a lorry

Barcelona airport. Air transport is fast but harmful to the environment

