

On 15th–17th February, Logistics Managers and Parts Managers from Atlas Copco worldwide gathered in Kolsva, Sweden for the 2011 Master in Logistics Conference. The purpose of the conference was to give proper training and secure logistics competence in the Customer Centres as well as to establish a global network for logistics people.

It also aimed to define the role of *Logistics Manager*. The idea was to identify gaps to the defined role which were common worldwide and compile a training package to fill the gaps during the conference.

The agenda for the three-day stay at the beautiful Kohlsva Country Estate included lectures and workshops. Topics included Leadership and Communications, Customer Orientation and Focus, Communication and Systems, Supply Chain Development, Warehousing, Inventory Management, Traffic Policy and Global Freight Network. At the end of the last day all participants attended a diploma ceremony, where they received a Master in Logistics certificate.

The conference turned out to be a great success and the SDC received compliments from the participants. Patty Gates, Logistics Manager at Atlas Copco Construction and Mining Australia, was delighted as she reflected on the conference.

“I am so lucky to work for a company like Atlas Copco. People are passionate about working for Atlas Copco. Our vision is to be better, constantly striving towards that. I am going to have my reflection book on my desk to keep reminding myself on not getting absorbed by the daily work and try to think long term as well.”

The opportunity to meet face-to-face, sharing common problems and coming up with solutions was highly appreciated. The participants seemed eager to go back home and apply what they had learned. They all got to prepare a development plan on how to transform what they had learned into meaningful actions and how to follow up actions in the monthly Logistic Review Meetings. The development plan was to be presented to their co-workers within two months. Wilson Sorroche from Brazil was sure that the conference would have great influence on his daily work.

“Our problems are common. We all have different levels but really most of them are the same. After this conference I feel comfortable to say that we will be able to solve some of them.”

Kostas Tasioulas from Atlas Copco DRC wanted to keep networking with his colleagues around the globe. For him, this was just the start.

“This conference is a very good start. It has to continue. Just spread it around in our company – we are the best!”