

OCTOBER 2024

NEWSLETTER # 11

Chaire Logistics City

News from the Chair

As the new academic year is now well under way, the Logistics City Chair would like to share information regarding:

- Research internship reports
- Logistics site visits
- Research results available in publications, conferences and webinars
- Upcoming events
- A new warehouse database

For more news and up-to-date information, please visit the Chair [website](#) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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About

The Logistics City Chair, created in Paris in 2019 and renewed in 2023 for a period of five years, is dedicated to research into urban logistics. Topics studied include **urban and suburban logistics real estate** (Theme 1), **trends and new consumer practices and their impact** on cities and their environment (Theme 2) and **public policies for sustainable urban logistics** (Theme 3). The Chair is funded by founding partner Sogaris, the Île-de-France Region and the Greater Paris Government.



Welcome Abel Kebede Reda

As of April 2024, **Abel Kebede Reda** has joined our research team as a postdoctoral researcher for three years. Abel will be working closely with us on the European ANR/DUT project "FRESH" (The FREight-SHopping nexus in urban outskirts and beyond). He completed his Ph.D. in Transport Systems and Logistics at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Uppsala, Sweden, in 2023, where his research focused on characterizing and modeling urban freight to inform planning policies and assess their impacts in large cities.

We are excited to have Abel on board for this three-year project and look forward to his contributions. Welcome, Abel!

Research Program : ANR-FRESH

The **ANR-FRESH (FREight-SHopping Nexus in Urban Outskirts and Beyond)** project explores the intersection of shopping-related mobility and urban logistics within the "15-minute city" concept in cities like Paris, Dortmund, Zurich, and Trondheim. Launched in January 2024, this three-year initiative is funded by ANR (France) and DUT (Driving Urban Transition) programs. The project aims to develop sustainable logistics solutions where essential services are accessible within walking or cycling distance, reducing the reliance on motorized transport.

Since its inception, the project has established a collaborative framework, held a kick-off meeting in February 2024, and started developing tools to assess last-mile delivery solutions. The team is also preparing a survey questionnaire to study individual shopping and travel behaviors. The ANR-FRESH consortium includes Université Gustave Eiffel, TU Dortmund (lead), NTNU, ETH Zurich, and partnerships with municipal administrations and associations, including the Greater Paris Government, City of Trondheim, City of Dortmund, and POLIS AISBL. On the University Gustave Eiffel side, Abel Kebede REDA works as a postdoctoral researcher and Laetitia Dablanç is the principal investigator.



Congratulations to our Research Interns

During the spring and summer semesters of 2024, the Chair hosted three interns researching logistics-related topics as a part of their end-of-year master's studies. The following students have written reports defended in the fall of 2024. Their projects can be described below:

- **Lise Phan's** master's thesis on "Logistique urbaine et régulation publique environnementale : quelles stratégies d'adaptation des acteurs de la logistique face aux Zones à faibles émissions et à la perspective du ZAN?" focuses on low-emission zones and regulation on land take from development, and their impacts on urban logistics.
- **Mohammed Younes's** master's thesis is on "Mapping Warehouses and Assessing their Socioeconomic Impacts in France with a Focus on E-commerce Activities".

Mohammed will continue with the team as a contractual researcher in the Fall 2024, working on the warehouse database (see below).

- **Paula Yaghi** worked with the Institut Paris Région (supervisor Antoine Beyer) on her master's thesis "Dynamiques et stratégies logistiques des grandes enseignes alimentaires dans les territoires franciliens" about the organization of supplies to supermarkets in the Paris region, with a geographical and economic analyses.

The master's theses together with a two-page summary and key findings in English will be available on the Chaire website shortly. Congratulations to you three for your hard work.

Site Visit: Amazon Metz

In May 2024, the Chaire was led through two guided visits to Amazon warehouses around Metz, France: the DAO2 cross-docking terminal in Woippy and the ETZ2 distribution center in Augny. During the visit, we were given an insight into a typical day at the Amazon warehouses, as well as the context in which they fit into the fabric of Metz and the Grand Est region. Amazon is now the largest employer in the Moselle region. With respective surface areas of 11000m² and 180000m², the Chair was able to observe the processes taking place with respect to organization of packages, order fulfillment, vehicle loading and unloading, and more.

Notes of our report can be found [here](#).



Photos of DAO2 Site Visit, Raimbault, 2024

Research Report: Urban Logistics Hubs

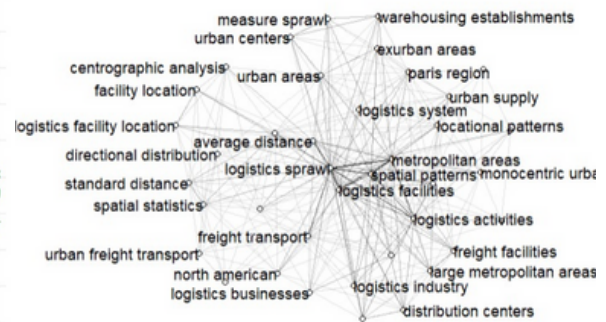
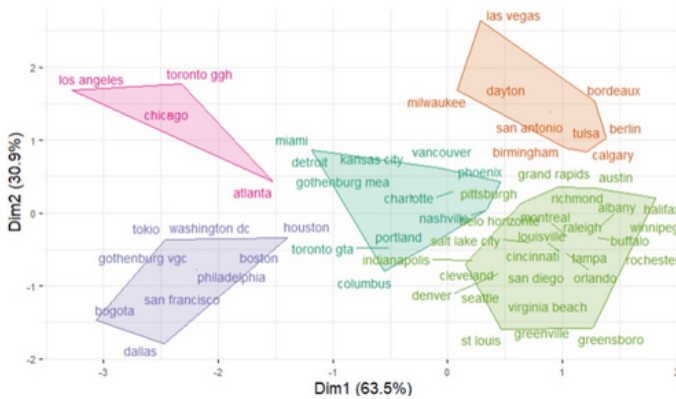
An International Transport Forum report was published in June 2024 on urban logistics hubs following a two-day Roundtable in 2023 presided by Laetitia Dablang. Reece Fisher and Juliette Berthon also took part in the Roundtable. The published report **Urban Logistics Hubs | ITF (itf-oecd.org)** touches on subjects such as how to best define an urban logistics hub in 2024, the role of urban logistics hubs in the last mile of the supply chain, and the insertion of urban logistics hubs in different contexts. The report draws conclusions from various international experts in the field of urban logistics, presenting examples of strategies for deploying UL hubs across the globe. Innovation, the role of institutions and actors, approaches for sustainable integration of hubs, and more are included in the report. ([Urban Logistics Hubs | ITF \(itf-oecd.org\)](https://www.itf-oecd.org/urban-logistics-hubs))

International
Transport Forum



Urban Logistics Hubs
Summary and Conclusions

195
Roundtable



Base Entrepôts: A New Warehouse Database

The chair is happy to announce the update and publication of a comprehensive data base concerning Locational patterns of warehouses in 78 cities around the world. A comparative meta-analysis, this database covers case studies in several international contexts. [Click here to read more.](#)

Spatial footprint of warehouses

Matthieu Schorung, Thibault Lecourt, and Laetitia Dablanc published **Assessing the spatial footprint of e-commerce logistics differentiating the types of warehouses: The case of Amazon in the United States** in the Journal of Transport and Land Use. E-commerce is simultaneously creating a new retail landscape through digitalization and new consumption and distribution practices and a new freight landscape in terms of the structuring of demand, the location characteristics of warehouses and distribution centers, and the handling of the last-mile segment in dense urban areas. Amazon represents all these developments in retail and e-commerce, being a dominant player in the e-commerce sector. This research focuses on the evolution of Amazon's logistics system, and particularly the geography of Amazon's warehouses, marked by an expansion of the spatial footprint of the warehouses and by a functional specialization of its logistics system. From the analysis of Amazon's logistics system, we understand how strong the spatial footprint of e-commerce is. The article is accessible here:

<https://doi.org/10.5198/jtlu.2024.2438>

Urbanism Next : E-commerce and Logistics

Laetitia Dablanc has just given a keynote lecture on freight, logistics and urbanism at the 2024 Urbanism Next Europe Conference, in Amsterdam, the Netherlands October 9-11. More on: <https://www.urbanismnext.org/events/2024-urbanism-next-europe-conference>

How to better manage city logistics?

On September 18, 2024 Laetitia Dablanc presented at a webinar organized by Cities@Heart on the different challenges and solutions for urban logistics. Her presentation was followed by case studies from Barcelona, Spain, and Vicenza, Italy. View a recap [here](#).



Site Visit: Urban Logistics Innovations on the Seine

On 17 September 2024, the team got a close-up look at all the river urban logistics operations in Paris during a boat tour of river innovations organised by Voies Navigables de France and part of the “Mobilités Innov” program ([here](#)). We saw the Fludis and Transpack urban logistics space for cargo bikes, the Fludis electric barge, the Franprix barge at the Port de la Bourdonnais and its fifty or so containers being unloaded, and the urban logistics hub project at the bottom of the Maison de la Radio, where a gas-station used to stand before.

Supplying Paris During the Olympic Games

On 21 July 2024, Laetitia Dablanc took part in France Culture's radio show Le magazine du week-end with Anne Conchon and Jean-André Lasserre to discuss the additional logistical effort required to organise urban events such as the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Listen [here](#).

Coming soon: On The Productive City

Issues of manufacturing and their relation to logistics activities have taken a more central stage in the Chair's activities. After a participation in the PUCA Ville Productive program (<https://www.urbanisme-puca.gouv.fr/ville-productive-r140.html>), a national initiative to develop research on “productive cities”, the Chair is involved in two projects. From October 2024, Reece Fisher will be co-directing a Master's workshop at the Urban Planning School of Paris (Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris) with Dr. Philippe Poinot and Institut Paris Région. The atelier will focus on developing a methodology of territorial diagnostic for diffuse productive activities in the urban fabric of one of the local communities in Île-de-France. The Chair is also part of an initiative in preparation to create a research center, led by CNMA, on Reindustrialization and logistics. More later.



Webinar: The evolution of e-commerce in city centers and the implications for public policy

The European Observatory for City Centres invites you to its webinar The Evolution of E-Commerce in City Centres and its Implications for Public Policy on Thursday 17 October from 2.30 pm to 4 pm, that will include a presentation of the new edition of the e-shopper barometer by La Post Group. The European Observatory for City Centres was launched on 8 February 2024 at the European Parliament, with the Logistics City chair among its founding members..

Register here: [European Observatory: Logistics and last-mile delivery - City Center Observatory](#)

What are "complete streets" and how could they accommodate freight better?

The Urban Freight Lab of the University of Washington (Anne Goodchild, Giacomo Dalla Chiara) is leading a research project for the [The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine](#) and the [Transportation Research Board](#). that includes [The City University of New York Alison Conway](#), [Toole Design Group](#), [Paul Bingham](#) and the Chair Logistics City on how to accommodate logistics and deliveries into the design of "complete streets". Laetitia Dablanc will report on the state of the art and best practices in Europe, providing focuses on a few case studies. The project will run from September 2024 until December 2026. More information is available [here](#) and [here](#).

Upcoming Events

The Chair is submitting abstracts to [I-NUF 2025: Reimagining the Future of Urban Freight in Los Angeles, California, USA](#), and many of us will be attending.

The International Urban Freight Conference (I-NUF) is the premier biennial conference that addresses all aspects of city logistics and goods movement in the world's metropolitan areas. The conference brings together researchers and practitioners in urban freight, supply chains, and logistics from around the world. The conference is held April 9-11, 2025, with abstract submissions due October 20, 2024. Information is available [here](#).

We also would like to highlight the [13th International Conference on City Logistics \(City Logistics 2025\)](#) will be held in Penang, Malaysia. The Institute for City Logistics is organizing the 13th International Conference on City Logistics from June 11-13, 2025, centering on Vision, Technology, and Policy. Extended abstracts are due for submission on September 30, 2024. For more information, click here.

L. Dablanc will moderate a round-table on logistics at the [POLIS conference](#) in Karlsruhe, Germany on 27-28 November 2024. At TRB 2025 in Washington, DC, USA, she will present a research by Benjamin Motte and Laetitia Dablanc on gig delivery workers' earnings, based on data from the large surveys about on-demand delivery in Paris carried out every two years by the Chair.

We will participate in the [France Logistique annual meeting](#) on November 21, 2024.

Publications and Communications : Spring-Summer 2024

Articles

Schorung, M., Lecourt, T., & Dablanc, L. (2024). Assessing the spatial footprint of e-commerce logistics differentiating the types of warehouses: The case of Amazon in the United States. *Journal of Transport and Land Use*, 17(1), 647-674. <https://doi.org/10.5198/jtlu.2024.2438>

Schorung, M. (2024). Quick commerce and the evolving business models of the food retail industry- Investigating the quick commerce supply chain and the urban impacts of dark stores. *Transportation Research Procedia*, 79, 305-312. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trpro.2024.03.041>

Conferences

Albertelli, M., Motte, B., Dablanc, L. (2024) Are gig delivery workers satisfied with their work? A statistical analysis of Paris 2021 and 2022 instant delivery surveys. 35th International Geographical Congress. Dublin, August 24-30.

Albertelli, M., (2024), co-leading a workshop at the Journées Mobilités (Mobility Days) organized by the Cerema Scientific and Technical Network, STMRTG and Gustave Eiffel University, "Decarbonation / transition: territorial strategy and levers, motorization, modeling, ZFE, stat.", JM-RST 2024, Toulouse, July 2-4, 2024

Besnard, P. (2024). Les batailles de l'action publique contre le quick commerce. Le dernier kilomètre de la livraison au cœur de la construction d'un problème public (*political battles against quick commerce, the construction of a public problem*). 6th Rencontres Francophones Transport Mobilité (RFTM), Brussels, 26-28 June.

Besnard, P. (2024). Cities against Dark Stores : how and why did last-mile delivery enter the political arena ? AESOP, Paris, July 7-12, 2024.

Dablanc, L. (2024) Invited speaker, Roundtable New Geographies of Logistics, AESOP Congress, Sciences Po, Paris, July 11.

Fisher, R. (2024). Dimensionnement des infrastructures logistiques en fonction des besoins anticipés : une étude de cas en Île-de-France. 6èmes Rencontres Francophones Transport Mobilité (RFTM), Bruxelles, 26-28 juin

Motte, B., Albertelli, M., Dablanc, L. (2024) Être livreur pour une plateforme numérique à Paris, un métier qui apporte satisfaction ? 6th Rencontres Francophones Transport Mobilité (RFTM), Brussels, 26-28 June.

Research Reports

Dablanc, L. (2024) Les livreurs des plateformes. Chapitre 1 partie III de Cuny, C., Dablanc, L., Estebanez, J., Gauchet, L., Le Corre, T., Legrand, M., Meunier, JM, Raimbault, N. Roux, A., Simon, G., Tranchant, L., Torres, AC, Wenglenski, S. La métropolisation au prisme des transformations du travail et de l'emploi. Enquête sur les « travailleurs essentiels » en Île-de-France. Rapport pour l'Institut de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (IRES), Confédération Générale du Travail. <https://ires.fr/publications/cgt/la-metropolisation-au-prisme-des-transformations-du-travail-et-de-lemploi-enquete-sur-les-travailleurs-essentiels-en-ile-de-france/>

In preparation: 4th Edition of Welcome to Logistics City, the flagship publication of the chair. This edition prepared by François Adoue, Laetitia Dablanc and Juliette Berthon (Sogaris) will focus on theme three of the chair's research: public policies, logistics governance and new data collection sources.

If you wish not to continue to receive news and updates from the chair, please email chairelogisticscity@gmail.com