




Volvo Trucks. Driving Progress



How will autonomous trucks affect the logistics industry?

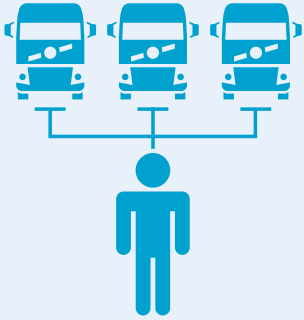
A futuristic, silver, autonomous truck is parked on a port dock. In the background, a large blue crane is lifting a blue container with the 'DFDS' logo. The scene is set against a dramatic, orange-hued sky at sunset or sunrise. The truck has a sleek, aerodynamic design with a black roof and red accents. The port area includes a concrete pier, yellow bollards, and a large ship on the left. A yellow forklift is visible on the right side of the frame.

History has shown that technology drives prosperity,
and automation is no exception. It will impact people's jobs
– including truck drivers – but often for the better.



What new jobs and opportunities will be created?

Simply put, humans will continue to play a central role in logistics no matter how advanced autonomous technologies become. There will always be situations where human judgement, communication skills and reasoning will be necessary. With the dawn of automation in logistics some jobs may remain unchanged, but most will transform and increasingly work alongside new technologies. Here we take a look at the different roles that will play a central role in transport and logistics in the near future:



Controllers

Autonomous vehicles will need to be supervised and controlled. In more complex systems, with multiple vehicles, this will require a control tower with a team responsible for coordinating all activities and operating the vehicles. This represents a completely new role and skills set.



Technicians

Autonomous trucks still need to be serviced and repaired so the industry will continue to need skilled technicians. Possibly even more so as trucks become increasingly complex.



Engineers

Multiple companies, from new start-ups to the traditional automotive manufacturers, are investing heavily in autonomous vehicles. As research and development continues to build pace, demand will grow for engineers specializing in fields like robotics, safety, autonomous navigation and electronics.



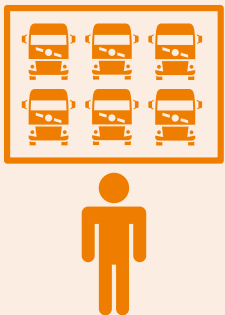
Software developers

Automated systems are heavily reliant on software, so software competences will be highly sought after, for both system development, as well as testing and verification.



Designers

Whether it is for vehicles, user interfaces or manufacturing processes there will be a need for designers to imagine and design products and services related to autonomous solutions.



Fleet managers

As the technology gets more complex, expertise in logistics flows and planning will be even more important in order to acquire, set-up and run an autonomous transport flows. The human centric part of the job like recruiting drivers or managing suppliers will continue to make fleet managers an important part of the logistics value chain.



Logistics experts

In order to deploy autonomous solutions for specific uses there will be need for expertise in port logistics or running mining operations.



Data security experts

Autonomous technologies generate and store an immense amount of data about vehicles, location, load, route, surroundings and more. Data is valuable and should be protected from a potential hack, making data security expertise an important part of logistics operations.



Truck drivers

Growing and changing consumption patterns around the world will put greater demand on transport and logistics. While autonomous technologies might replace the driver in some repetitive applications the need for skilled drivers will grow particularly in assignments that involve complex urban environments and last mile delivery.



New businesses

When everything is connected and automated, new possibilities and business models are created. For logistics, this could include automatic payment solutions, new ways to sell insurance or new warehousing solutions. It is hard to predict the nature of these new industries, new businesses and jobs. Most of them have not even been imagined yet; however, they are coming.

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