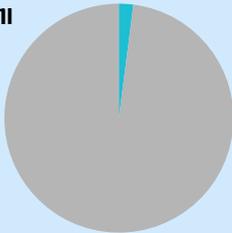# Supply Chain Technicians in Massachusetts

## Who Are Supply Chain Technicians?

The National Center for SCA defines the job of a Supply Chain Technician as a person who installs, operates, supports, upgrades or maintains the automated material handling equipment and systems that support the supply chain.

> Supply chain technician is an emergent occupation that does not currently exist in the federal Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

## Why Supply Chain Technicians?

Massachusetts accounts for about **2%** of current supply chain technicians related workforce in the nation‹



— Schools in the United States are not producing enough supply chain mechanics and technicians with the requisite skills. **(University of Tennessee, 2015)**

— The supply chain field gets overlooked by new graduates, who think of supply-chain work as "a guy driving a forklift in a dusty old factory." That outdated image is a huge hurdle for an industry that badly needs new talent in high tech, analytics, robotics, and engineering. **(Fortune Magazine, 2014)**

## Employment in Massachusetts*

In Massachusetts, supply chain related technicians and mechanics (defined using nine standard occupational codes) are currently estimated to number about 48,300. They are projected to grow by 9% by 2025. In addition to the new growth, companies are expected to replace about 22% of their current technician workforce, thus creating about 14,900 total job openings (both new and replacement) in the next 10 years.

Massachusetts is home to 36 distribution center facilities of over 250,000 square feet. (CoStar, 2014)

Studies suggest that 70% of warehouses will add more automated processes in a 5-year timeframe. (Motorola 2013 Warehouse Visions Report)

With an average need for 4-6 technicians per large automated distribution center, Massachusetts warehouses will need estimated 150 to 250 trained technicians to support their automated operations in a 5-year period.
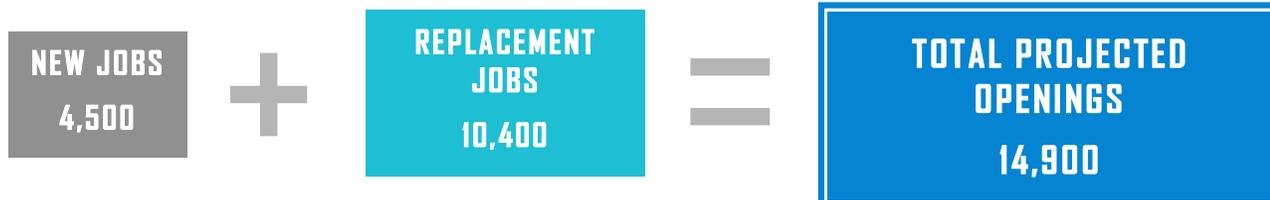
### 10-year Employment Projections
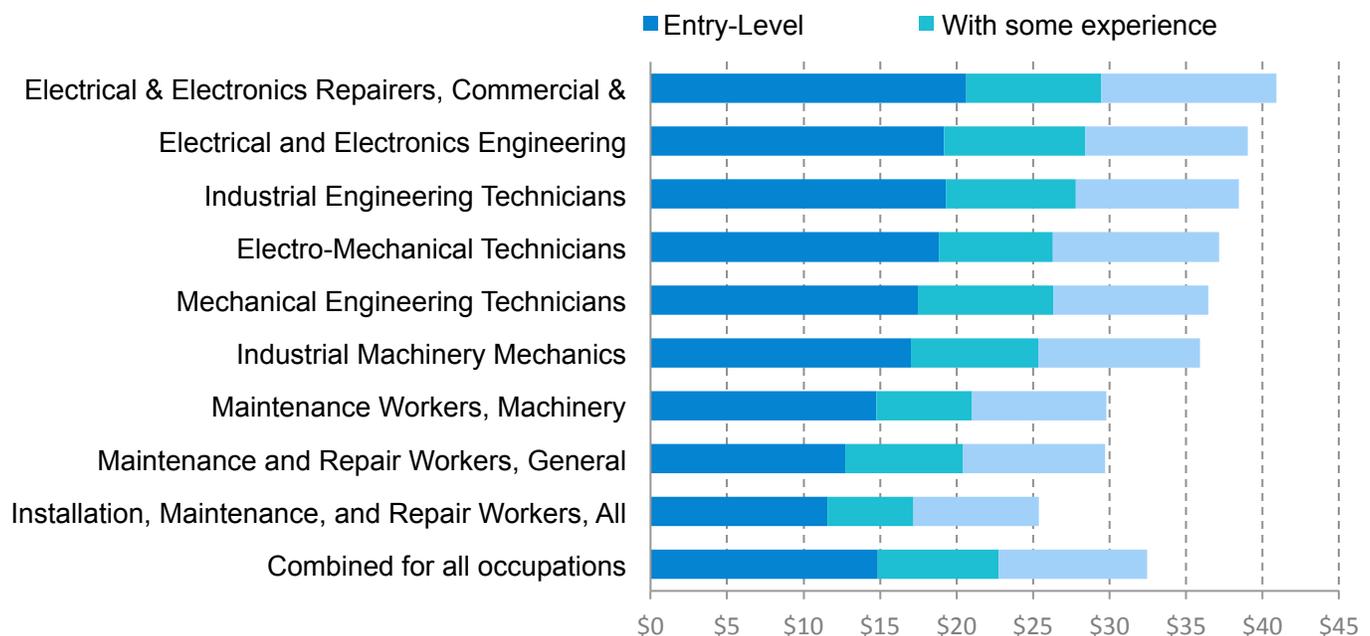
**2015 JOBS**
48,300

**+ 9%** →

**2025 JOBS**
52,800

### 10-year Job Openings

**NEW JOBS**
4,500

**+**

**REPLACEMENT JOBS**
10,400

**=**

**TOTAL PROJECTED OPENINGS**
14,900

## Employment Projections for Occupations Related to Supply Chain Technicians in Massachusetts, 2015-2025

| Occupations (Standard Occupational Code) | 2015 Jobs | 2025 Jobs | Total Job Openings (new & replacement) | New Jobs | Replacement Jobs | % Growth | % Replacement |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maintenance and Repair Workers, General (49-9071) | 26,948 | 30,317 | 8,910 | 3,369 | 5,541 | 13% | 21% |
| Industrial Machinery Mechanics (49-9041) | 4,064 | 4,709 | 1,910 | 645 | 1,265 | 16% | 31% |
| Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians (17-3023) | 5,803 | 5,740 | 1,306 | (63) | 1,306 | -1% | 23% |
| Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers, All Other (49-9099) | 2,655 | 2,886 | 716 | 231 | 485 | 9% | 18% |
| Mechanical Engineering Technicians (17-3027) | 2,157 | 2,248 | 552 | 91 | 461 | 4% | 21% |
| Industrial Engineering Technicians (17-3026) | 2,177 | 2,225 | 547 | 48 | 499 | 2% | 23% |
| Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Comm. & Industrial Equipment (49-2094) | 1,958 | 1,995 | 466 | 37 | 429 | 2% | 22% |
| Maintenance Workers, Machinery (49-9043) | 1,447 | 1,589 | 334 | 142 | 192 | 10% | 13% |
| Electro-Mechanical Technicians (17-3024) | 1,094 | 1,080 | 250 | (14) | 250 | -1% | 23% |

## Hourly Earnings of Occupations Related to Supply Chain Technicians in Massachusetts, 2015**



Legend: ■ Entry-Level ■ With some experience

Categories (top to bottom):
- Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Commercial &
- Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Industrial Engineering Technicians
- Electro-Mechanical Technicians
- Mechanical Engineering Technicians
- Industrial Machinery Mechanics
- Maintenance Workers, Machinery
- Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
- Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers, All
- Combined for all occupations

Axis: $0, $5, $10, $15, $20, $25, $30, $35, $40, $45