# Supply Chain Technicians in Minnesota

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?

Minnesota accounts for over 2% of the current supply technician related workforce in the nation!
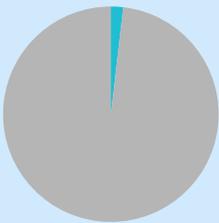
— Schools in the United States are not producing enough supply chain mechanics and technicians with the requisite skills. **(University of Tennessee, 2015)**

— 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 That outdated image is a huge hurdle for an industry that badly needs new talent in high tech, analytics, robotics, and engineering.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 Minnesota*

In Minnesota, supply chain related technicians and mechanics (defined using nine standard occupational codes) are currently estimated to number about 44,100. 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 13,500 total job openings (both new and replacement) in the next 10 years.

> Minnesota is home to 68 distribution center facilities of over 250,000 square feet. (CoStar, 2014)
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> Studies suggest that 70% of warehouses will add more automated processes in a 5-year timeframe. (Motorola 2013 Warehouse Visions Report)
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> With an average need for 4-6 technicians per large automated distribution center, Minnesota warehouses will need estimated 200 to 300 trained technicians to support their automated operations in a 5-year period.
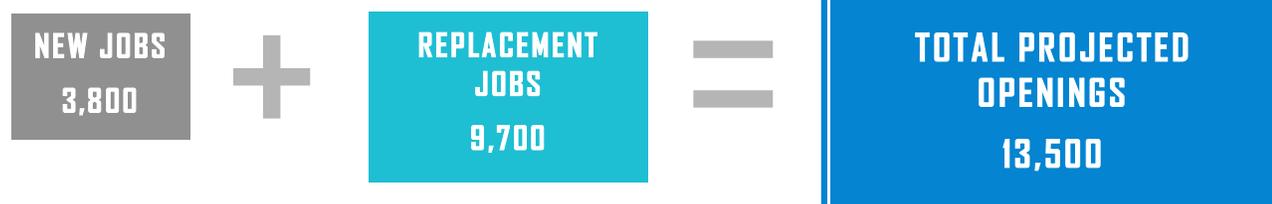
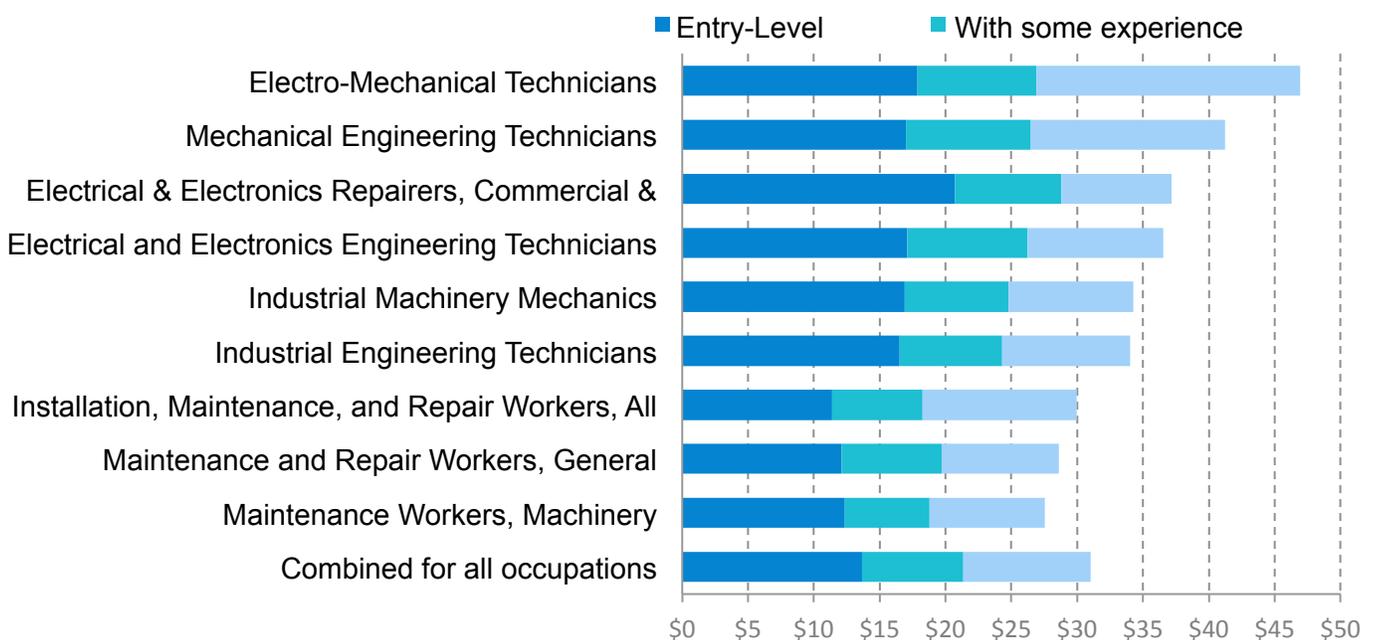### 10-year Employment Projections

2015 JOBS	+ 9% →	2025 JOBS
44,100		47,900

10-year Job Openings

NEW JOBS		REPLACEMENT JOBS		TOTAL PROJECTED OPENINGS
3,800	**+**	9,700	**=**	13,500

Employment Projections for Occupations Related to Supply Chain Technicians in Minnesota, 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)	23,730	26,039	7,163	2,309	4,854	10%	20%
Industrial Machinery Mechanics (49-9041)	6,396	7,492	3,132	1,096	2,036	17%	32%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers, All Other (49-9099)	4,992	5,195	1,148	203	945	4%	19%
Industrial Engineering Technicians (17-3026)	2,904	2,849	644	(55)	644	-2%	22%
Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians (17-3023)	2,504	2,488	542	(16)	542	-1%	22%
Mechanical Engineering Technicians (17-3027)	1,498	1,537	358	39	319	3%	21%
Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Comm. & Industrial Equipment (49-2094)	948	1,022	271	74	197	8%	21%
Maintenance Workers, Machinery (49-9043)	903	1,038	257	135	122	15%	14%
Electro-Mechanical Technicians (17-3024)	196	213	43	17	43	9%	22%

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