

# Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

**The Transportation, Distribution & Logistics Career Cluster includes careers in which you plan, manage, and move everything from people to products through a range of transportation services. Individuals in this cluster are involved in the logistics of all types of transportation from road to rail and from air to water [careertech.org].**

**H**umberto Otero kicked his career into high gear before graduating from high school.

As part of his high school Auto Service Technology class, Humberto applied for a job at an automobile shop. He interviewed at First Team Auto Mall in Roanoke, the same place where his father worked, and landed a job as an automotive technician.

Humberto knew he wanted to work with cars by the time he was 12. He says he has been around cars “forever,” since he comes from a family of mechanics. His father still works at the same shop he does, and his grandfather used to own an automobile shop.

At First Team Auto Mall, Humberto specializes in Volkswagens and is a VW Master Technician, a certification which took him about five years to complete. He also is a certified Virginia State Vehicle Inspector.

Humberto advises high school students who want to become automotive technicians to work hard and never stop learning. “That’s a big thing, because technology in automobiles is changing all the time,” he says.

by Veronica Garabelli



Photo by Mark Rhodes

## What they make

Occupation	Employed in Va. <sup>1</sup>	Median wage <sup>2</sup>	Predominant level of education
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	39,719	\$36,570	High school diploma
Automotive service technicians	22,653	\$39,540	High school diploma, certification
Light truck or delivery services drivers	19,386	\$29,830	High school diploma
Billing and posting clerks	12,835	\$35,120	Associate degree
Logisticians	6,675	\$80,350	Bachelor's degree
Diesel engine specialists	7,238	\$41,130	High school diploma, certification
Supervisors of transportation operators	5,624	\$55,560	High school diploma
Dispatchers	4,185	\$34,520	Associate degree, certification
Bus drivers	3,638	\$34,780	High school diploma, certification
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics	3,212	\$44,900	High school diploma, certification
Airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers	2,808	\$102,800	Bachelor's degree, certification
Transportation and distribution managers	2,338	\$92,880	High school diploma
Tire repairers and changers	2,022	\$26,120	High school diploma, certification
Captains, mates, and pilots of water vessels	1,880	\$67,830	High school diploma, certification
Cargo and freight agents	1,785	\$32,020	Associate degree
Aircraft mechanics and service technicians	1,844	\$53,640	Associate degree
Couriers and messengers	1,984	\$27,810	High school diploma
Ship engineers	1,539	\$57,130	Associate degree
Air traffic controllers	1,240	\$140,290	Associate degree, certification

<sup>1</sup>2012 <sup>2</sup>2013

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia Employment Commission, Trailblazers

## Humberto Otero II

**Automotive Technician, First Team Auto Mall, Roanoke**

**High school:** Hidden Valley High School and Arnold R. Burton Technology Center, Roanoke County Public Schools

**CTE studies:** Automotive Technology I, II, III



For more information about career planning, visit the CTE Resource Center's Web site.

