

25 UNDER 25 AWARD HONOREES

Transportation Logistics Systems, Inc.

Kansas City, MO/ 6 employees
Owner: **Melody Warren**



"If you take care of your customers, they will take care of you." —Melody Warren

Getting freight successfully transported from one point to another is just part of the job for Transportation Logistics Systems, Inc.

The company also ensures that the freight is handled efficiently and at the best price.

Founded by Melody Warren in 1992, Transportation Logistics Systems has grown from a home-based business with a customer base of two clients to more than 100.

The company began as a transportation brokerage company and has evolved into a third-party logistics provider and freight forwarder.

Warren started in the trucking business after graduating from high school, and she readily admits that she lacked some business management skills. "Fortunately, I surrounded myself with people smarter than me and, lo and behold, 10 years later, we are still around," she said.

On a daily basis, Transportation

Logistics is called upon to ship loads ranging from a single small box to an entire shipment of manufactured goods. The company handles both in-bound and out-bound shipments for companies throughout the United States, as well as Canada, Mexico and overseas.

Transportation Logistics won a Cornerstone Award from the Economic Development Corporation for the renovation of the company's new headquarters, an 80-year-old building located in South Kansas City.

And while being a woman in a male-dominated industry has presented challenges, Warren has persevered. She has received several awards, including being a finalist for Ernst and Young's Entrepreneur of the Year Award. She is also a mentor in the HEMP program.

"My mantra is always to support the entrepreneurs around me," she said.