

Uber Freight

The TMS advantage:
10 ways logistics
leaders can enhance
operational
performance



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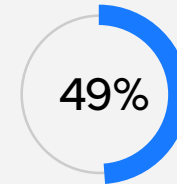
Logistics in the digital age

Businesses are constantly seeking ways to stay profitable amid uncertain market conditions. For shippers, that means unearthing hidden costs, selecting the right lanes and routes, and nurturing strong carrier relationships.

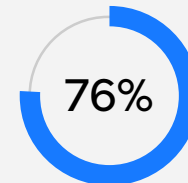
Achieving these goals hinges on using modern transportation technology. [A transportation management system \(TMS\)](#) can streamline complex logistics operations across every possible mode and region. The software expands direct, real-time access to carrier capacity, data-driven insights, and necessary documents, while also providing real-time data and complete visibility across operations.

Despite today's soft market, the past few years demonstrated that supply chain disruption can happen at any moment. And as logistics solutions continue to evolve, incorporating new technologies like machine learning and AI, using a modern TMS gives shippers a competitive advantage, helping uplevel their transportation operations.

Risk is everywhere



of supply chain professionals are worried about how a recession might impact their bottomline. Inflation, geopolitical risks, and port congestion also continue to destabilize the freight market.



of supply chain leaders believe their organization is facing more frequent disruptions compared to three years ago.

Source capacity with confidence

1. Predict transportation needs with real-time data

Shippers have to juggle a host of different shipping needs when making procurement decisions, including expected volume, origin and destination, delivery timelines, and temperature control. Carrier pricing and availability also factor in to meet certain load requirements. Manually reviewing these factors can be time-consuming for seasoned pros.

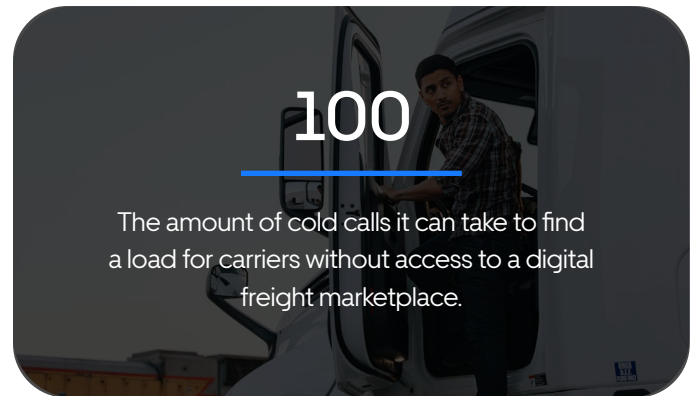
A TMS helps shippers quickly analyze these factors to make strategic decisions, faster. Additionally, it provides access to historical shipment data and real-time market trends. These precise assessments of immediate transportation needs empower shippers to have a flexible transportation strategy, no matter the market conditions.

2. Eliminate endless contract negotiations with instant quotes

Without the right technology, shippers must manage an extensive amount of paperwork, phone calls, and emails to coordinate shipments and negotiate terms with carriers. A TMS reduces this administrative burden.

Instead of individually reaching out to carriers or manually comparing quotes from miscellaneous sources, shippers can use a TMS to send quote requests to a pre-approved list of carriers and compile their responses in one central platform. Automating a bulk of the communication and

documentation processes allows logistics teams to focus on more strategic tasks.



3. Avoid last-minute rushes with proactive capacity planning

Accurate load demand forecasts are key benefits of implementing a TMS. This allows shippers to plan and book capacity in advance, helping avoid last-minute rushes and urgent requests for carriers to accommodate unexpected demand surges. A more organized, strategic booking approach fosters trust by providing carriers with predictable workloads. Carriers want to work with shippers they can count on—and offering accurate load estimates consistently can strengthen those relationships.

Execute shipments with unparalleled precision

4. Consolidate loads and reduce empty miles

It can be a struggle to control costs as the market continues to fluctuate. Efficient load planning is also a challenge when navigating the delicate balancing act between the overutilization or underutilization of truck space.

Leaders can easily overcome these roadblocks with a TMS, which acts as a supply chain traffic controller. Smart route planning can reduce unnecessary travel and empty miles. The software also ensures that trucks are fully utilized by identifying opportunities to bundle multiple shipments. It can even find return trips for trucks with available space, helping cut back on fuel consumption.

3.5B

The amount of hours trucks drive empty in the U.S. each year.

5. Optimize price, mode, and service

With the power of intelligent load-matching, a TMS can transform the way businesses work with carriers. By evaluating the cost benefits and capacity constraints of carriers across different modes—from ocean and air, to road and rail—logistics teams can plan their shipments more cost-

effectively and select the most suitable carriers based on specific criteria.

Algorithms are applied to assess important shipment characteristics like size, weight, destination, and urgency to match them with transportation partners that have the right equipment and availability. If the load requires refrigeration during transit, the TMS can parse thousands of carrier options within seconds to identify reefers equipped to handle specific shipping needs. This data-driven precision in matching ensures faster, more efficient delivery while minimizing the risk of damage or delays.

Another important aspect of load-matching involves performance considerations. Carrier performance history, like on-time delivery rates, safety records, and overall reliability must be taken into careful consideration. The Uber Freight TMS utilizes data-driven scorecards for carrier KPIs so that businesses can make informed decisions when choosing their transportation partners.

+11M

The number of shipments Uber Freight TMS has delivered.

Digitize freight for real-time tracking and end-to-end visibility

6. Enable proactive issue resolution with a 360-degree view

Lack of supply chain visibility prevents businesses from responding to timely transportation challenges. A retailer might receive a notification that their shipments are delayed. But without real-time visibility, they can't pinpoint the exact cause. Whether it's a customs hold or warehouse delay, resolving the problem can be a major challenge, resulting in missed sales opportunities.

A TMS establishes a end-to-end, control tower view of the entire supply chain, from production to delivery. Shippers can access a centralized dashboard that displays the real-time status of all their tendered loads. This includes the shipment's current location, estimated time of arrival (ETA), carrier KPIs, and any deviations from the planned route. When an exception occurs, the TMS generates real-time alerts to help teams optimize routes and inventory.

7. Unlock continuous improvement opportunities

Companies with a bird's eye view of orders can pinpoint existing limitations within their supply chains, and create a long-term roadmap for improvement. By gaining a clear understanding of inventory levels and order processing, shippers can choose modes and routes that produce faster delivery and improve customer satisfaction.

Uber Freight's redesigned Control Tower unlocks next-level visibility for shippers by consolidating data in one place. It seamlessly integrates logistics functions like searching and updating loads, sharing tracking links and documents, marking favorites, and communicating with carriers.



From paper to pixels: The journey to automated payments

8. Ensure timely, accurate payments within seconds

Inaccurate or delayed payments can strain relationships with critical partners, and even lead to service disruptions and increased costs. A TMS is a powerful ally for businesses that need a more efficient way to process carrier invoices or execute payment approval workflows. Shippers can ensure accurate transactions by automating their billing and invoicing processes to instantly calculate charges based on agreed-upon rates. They can also create and send invoices to customers directly, eliminating the need for manual entry.

9. Access financial documents using one centralized platform

As a central repository that stores every single piece of shipping data, a TMS consolidates payment-related information such as contracts, invoices, receipts, Bills of Lading (BOL), and Proof of Delivery (POD). This makes financial records more easily accessible for auditing and reporting, and helps eliminate discrepancies that can arise from missing or fragmented paperwork.

Streamline your payments, from procurement to execution, with a TMS.

1. Negotiate contracts and book loads with carriers.
2. Receive invoices from carriers.
3. Upload BOLs and PODs for delivery confirmation.
4. Automatically verify invoices.
5. Circulate invoices through necessary approvals.
6. Receive payment confirmations.
7. Reconcile confirmed payments with invoices.

Drive the future of freight with AI

10. Power proactive decision-making with advanced analytics

Data-driven insights are the frontline of defense against risk. To create targeted contingency plans, shippers must lean on advanced analytics to identify supply chain vulnerabilities. From installing real-time weather alerts and keeping tabs on performance insights, to forecasting demand and running simulations ahead of peak shipping season, businesses need to be prepared to thrive in a volatile industry.

Insights AI, Uber Freight's generative AI tool, gives logistics teams instant access to all three insights, helping companies build a more flexible transportation framework that accounts for market volatility and unforeseen events.

Three types of data help build resilient supply chains.

1. Diagnostic insights identify and analyze the root cause of underlying supply chain issues, which can help reduce costs and speed up delivery times.
2. Predictive insights forecast transportation challenges and demand fluctuations, helping shippers prepare for every possible scenario.
3. Prescriptive insights provide actionable measures on how to respond to anticipated events.

The TMS advantage: 10 ways logistics leaders can enhance operational performance

Mastering the freight orchestra

Think of a TMS as a shipping maestro. A TMS is responsible for every element of the transportation process. It unites logistics teams, distributors, and carriers in harmony by making sure everyone is in sync and on schedule. And it helps shippers improvise by offering alternative plans, ensuring they stay on course as disruptions arise.

There are no wrong turns or missed beats. A TMS can transform your shipping strategy by ensuring your goods reach their destination with precision.

Learn how your business can enhance coordination and flexibility with Uber Freight's new logistics optimization software.