

# Warehouse and Transportation Working Together



## Establish effective interoperability between planning and execution in transportation

Within the realm of supply chain there has always been an inherent separation between planning and actual execution. Historically, this separation resulted from the gap in time between planning and order creation through order fulfillment. In the realm of supply chain execution, and specifically transportation planning and order fulfillment, this limiting gap does not need to be the status quo.

The gap between transportation planning and execution is naturally limited, and in some cases, non-existent. Consequently, plans resulting from transportation optimization technology must be operationally executable from the start, meaning they need to be aware of operational commitments to carriers, the status of order processing in the warehouses, and constraints in the physical distribution network. If not privy to these decisions, commitments, or constraints, transportation planners are forced to react to something they could have avoided had it been communicated or anticipated, often leading to less than optimal results.

Creating an active interoperability between the planning activity and the ever-changing dynamics of the execution eco-system can combat this challenge. Leveraging Blue Yonder's warehouse and transportation capabilities together while synchronizing pre-built and adaptable workflows will help reduce costs, improve throughput and enhance the customer experience. The key to this integration working is the iterative planning and re-planning process transportation management can go

## Real results

Reduction in dock to stock cycle times up to

**50%**

Reduction in transportation fines/compliance costs up to

**85%**

Improvement for on-time delivery compliance up to

**99.5+**

through based on the status of the order within the warehouse management. This innate communication between the systems allows for maximum flexibility and optimization of transportation to handle changes or disruptions while not creating waste within the distribution operation.

## **Why go at it alone? Rely on Blue Yonder, the industry leader**

When warehouse management and transportation management capabilities are siloed, it's difficult to manage inventory within the warehouse without inbound and outbound load visibility in the distribution center. Furthermore, disparate load building without consideration for inventory location or availability negatively impacts streamlining and makes labor less efficient. Inefficient execution in the warehouse or on the road leads to lower productivity levels across the board.

When warehouse management and transportation management capabilities are synchronized, all departments within an organization begin to work with the same data, reducing risk and decreasing extraneous unnecessary costs. This also results in improved efficiencies, better decision making and improved supply chain execution and profitability. Implementing Blue Yonder's warehouse management and transportation management together will single-handedly maximize productivity and increase profits. A coordinated plan to synchronize the two solutions will provide the greatest benefits to your warehouse and transportation operations.

## **Synchronized warehouse management and transportation management capabilities within easy reach**

Awareness of network and storage constraints is critical for optimizing inventory deployment to meet customer expectations for service. Blue Yonder provides a synchronized order to shipment relationship model between transportation and warehousing and the ability to estimate palletization and depalletization needs, given combined transportation and warehousing constraints. Blue Yonder also provides an evaluation-based decision support paradigm, wherein load planners can evaluate the impact of action by reviewing key metrics before committing to the results of that action.

Additional capabilities include improved scheduling through the consideration of historical and real-time traffic implications, out-of-the-box visibility to the audit history or major operational entities and the ability to generate user activity reports from audit data and industry specific shipment attributes in rating, tariff restrictions and handling time. The solution gives continuous feedback and updates to fulfillment planning regarding constraints such as equipment, availability, precise transit times and vendor ready shipment information, helping to reduce buffer stock, in transit inventory and improve customer service levels.

A typical transportation process assumes that once the planning process is completed, regardless of the time horizon, it is then handed off to execution and any subsequent changes are handled then. With an iterative and incremental approach, planning becomes an ongoing function that does not really end, but instead continuously functions, recognizing order status in the warehouse and available load capacity to accommodate order changes, and opportunistically consider additional freight to be added to the shipment to improve the shipment utilization. Additionally, in this model, orders and constraints become organic and are carried across subsequent optimization runs so that each round of planning understands what happened before it and the current operating environment.

Whether your concern is securing increasingly scarce resources including trucks and drivers, skilled forklift drivers, or a mass of warehouse associates in anticipation of peak demand, strong labor forecasting capabilities can reduce risk substantially. Supplementing these forecasts with scheduling tools that can be extended into a mobile ready workforce can improve attendance, increase flexibility, and further mitigate the patchiness of demand day to day. With Blue Yonder, leveraging improved visibility into the constraints inherent in the physical supply chain (dock door availability, available appointment times, etc.) can improve the accuracy of these forecasts and schedules, improve overall utilization, and decrease the likelihood of wasted labor or capacity that was needed elsewhere.



[blueyonder.com](https://blueyonder.com)

