

Buyer's Guide

Blue Yonder's Digital Distribution Solutions for Wholesale

Speed, simplicity, & scalability



Customized Solutions for Effortless Omni-Channel Execution

The world of wholesale distribution is changing. Hardened, non-agile transport management system (TMS), warehouse management system (WMS), warehouse execution system (WES), and order management system (OMS) solutions are no longer agile enough to deliver the flexibility wholesale distributors need to balance growth and margin and respond to dynamic, ever-changing customer requirements in an omni-channel world.

Take what you need, leave the rest

Blue Yonder's suite of composable, SaaS-native software tools are purpose-built to address your unique operational needs, as they arise. Put together the right set of tools for your business and scale your digital distribution capabilities at your own pace, according to your unique business priorities.



Digital Distribution Solutions From Blue Yonder

Blue Yonder offers a comprehensive range of cutting-edge, SaaS-native digital distribution tools for wholesale distribution operations.



Blue Yonder's Adaptive Fulfillment & Warehousing (AFW)

Blue Yonder's Adaptive Fulfillment & Warehousing (AFW) is a composable suite of versionless, SaaS-native tools designed to meet the unique needs of wholesale distributors. Extensible, modular implementation gives wholesale distributors the flexibility they need to develop solution configurations that solve their specific, immediate challenges without the bulk and redundancy of legacy enterprise-level solutions.



AFW is simple, easy to use, and quick to implement. User-friendly mobile interfaces can be mastered in a few hours, making staff training and onboarding effortless.

With AFW, you can take what you need and leave the rest. Wholesale distributors can scale cost-effectively and at their own pace, building upon existing systems to solve critical operational challenges without sacrificing growth or margin.

AFW

Key Features

Foundational, intuitive fulfillment solution

Includes inbound and outbound inventory visibility with a mobile-based interface for rapid staff onboarding.

Seamless integration

Quick deployment is enabled through the ability to broaden capabilities across the supply chain, including major vendors and technology such as robotics providers.

Extensible

Deploy personalized dashboards and mobile workflows to meet operational needs.

Cloud-native SaaS application

Built on a modular, services-based architecture that allows for rapid deployment, seamless upgrades, and faster time-to-value, eliminating IT overhead.



AFW Capabilities

Inventory Management:

- Visibility and Tracking
- Configurable Storage Locations
- Cycle Counting and Validation
- Lot and Date Tracking
- Hazardous and New Item Flags
- Item Level Notes
- Inventory Moves / Partial Moves
- Inventory Adjustments
- Planned Cross-Dock
- Opportunistic Cross-Dock
- Serialization

Handover and Shipping:

- Event-Based Handover (Curbside, Pickup, Crowdsourced Delivery)
- Customer Proximity Notifications (Approaching and Checked-in)
- Shipping Documentation
- Parcel, Postal, Crowdsourced, Last Mile, and LTL enabled
- TL / LTL Shipping
- Handover and Shipment Confirmation
- Customer Handover

Picking and Packing:

- Mobile First Picking / Packing
- Picking Rules and Configuration
- List Picking and Instructions
- Zone and Batch Picking
- Staging and Consolidation
- Pick Tour Optimization
- Integrated Fulfillment (Stockroom and Store)
- Short Picking with Reason Codes
- Cartonization and Tote Picking
- Pack Station with Interoperable Parcel and LTL Booking Workflows

Inbound and Receiving:

- Store and Stockroom Receiving
- Receiving and Check-in (ASN, PO, & Blind)
- Auto-Generated LPNs
- Configurable Putaway Rules
- Multi-Order Receiving
- Consignee and Planned Cross-Dock
- Opportunistic Cross-Dock
- PO / Receipt Notes

Labor and Workflows

- System Directed Work Assignment
- Labor "Lite" Tracking
- Multiple Languages
- Dynamic Tour Build Creation
- User & Role-Based Customizable Mobile UI
- Configurable Workflows

Replenishments:

- Demand and Triggered
- Stockroom and Store Replenishments
- Manual Replenishments
- Scheduled Top-Off

Integration Framework

- Extensibility Framework
- Blue Yonder's Mobile Studio Extensibility Toolkit
- Common Blue Yonder Platform
- API-Based Integration

Maximum Efficiency From Warehouse, to Yard, to Road and Beyond

Blue Yonder's TMS, WMS, WES, and OMS solutions are composable and extensible customer service-optimized resources designed to deliver accelerated end-to-end execution from the warehouse, to the yard, to the road and beyond.



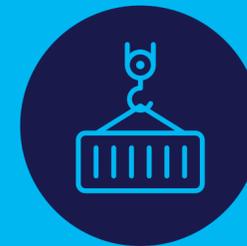
Load building & transportation

Improve service levels by up to 40% with load, route and asset optimization



Warehouse & labor

Improve throughput by up to 50% with omni-channel efficiency and retention



Execution & automation

Unlock greater efficiencies and cost reductions across the warehouse including an up to 12% increase in units-per-hour



Order & availability

Automate order management to drive efficiencies, reduce costs and deliver the experiences that customers expect

What are Blue Yonder Microservices?

Blue Yonder's microservices are modular **software tools** that can be fitted together in any configuration to develop targeted solutions for wholesale distribution operations. Instead of purchasing a full-scale enterprise-level solution, microservices enable wholesale distributors to buy individual modular software units to address specific challenges or needs within their operations, one at a time, or in various configurations. Blue Yonder's microservices are composable and integratable with existing solutions. Optimize your existing tech stack and plug gaps in your digital architecture by adding the specific microservices you need, or configure lean, needs-based solutions tailored to your individual operation.



How Will Digital Distribution Maturity Transform Your Business?



Transportation Management

- End-to-end, scalable connected network
- In-depth, real-time visibility of complex networks
- Last-mile support
- Planning, execution and optimization for both inbound and outbound processes (regional and global)
- Predictive exception management and capacity management; reduce risk and increase execution performance
- High-precision savings quantification and network performance assessments
- Increase resilience and reliability while reducing costs



Warehouse Management

- Halve your fulfillment, storage and handling costs
- Achieve 100% inventory visibility from supplier to end user
- Real-time inbound and outbound processing
- Fully digital environment
- Integrate and synchronize operations across the extended distribution network
- Intuitive and configurable user experience
- Double your throughput



Warehouse Execution

- Improve workforce planning
- Algorithmic orchestration for improved outcomes
- Centralize control of multiple automation vendors
- Improve visibility through a single operational dashboard
- Reduce costs across the warehouse
- Access comprehensive analytics
- Task optimization and prioritization for human labor and robots



Order Management

- Efficient and transparent order fulfillment
- Increase employee satisfaction through streamlined mobile interfaces
- Full inventory control, visibility and accuracy
- Real-time insights and visibility across all orders
- Scalable and resilient order workflows
- Advanced orchestration engine delivers personalized customer experiences
- Seamlessly manage and orchestrate orders across brands, geographies and channels

Solutions Matrix

Compose your digital ecosystem, one calculated step at a time

No wholesale or distribution supply chain looks the same – your processes, people and existing workflows are unique. Use this matrix to pair up your business’s most critical challenges and urgent motivators with the right Blue Yonder AFW capability.

Wholesale Distribution Challenge	Blue Yonder Solution
“I have an issue with inventory”	AFW Inventory Management <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi-level visibility and tracking• Configurable storage locations• Counting and validation• Lot and date tracking• Brand/multi-client segregation
“We’re over-reliant on tenured staff and we experience high churn.”	AFW Labor and Workflows <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved workforce labor planning optimizes labor usage• Consistent, configurable mobile interfaces are easy to master and easier to use, so you can onboard new staff in a few hours

Wholesale Distribution Challenge	Blue Yonder Solution
<p>“I’m struggling to optimize labor management.”</p>	<p>AFW Inventory Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimize labor usage with tasking and rules optimization • Labor tracking • Role and equipment assignment • Dynamic tour build creation • User and role-based customizable mobile user interfaces and custom workflows
<p>“My transportation and last-mile costs are too high”</p>	<p>Blue Yonder’s Transportation Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced modeling, automated execution, dynamic capacity, centralized procurement, and appropriate digital capabilities help optimize transportation processes and control costs.
<p>“My units-per-hour rate is not good enough.”</p>	<p>Blue Yonder’s Warehouse Execution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance throughput by improving dock utilization and prioritizing nearly completed shipments based on service levels, dock door availability and inventory levels workflows

Wholesale Distribution Challenge	Blue Yonder Solution
<p>“I’m looking for ways to improve picking and packing operations.”</p>	<p>Blue Yonder’s Warehouse Execution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task prioritization, predictive work assignments and seamless robotics onboarding increase efficiencies and reduce costs across the warehouse • Rapid end-to-end fulfillment with the ability to flow through product from receiving to outbound • Dynamic task assignment balances priority and proximity to ensure high-priority demands are met, while proximity efficiencies are utilized <p>AFW Picking & Packing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile-first picking/packing • Picking rules and configuration • List picking and instructions • Zone and batch picking • Staging and consolidation • Pick tour optimization • Integrated fulfillment • Short picking with reason codes • Directed and undirected picking and packing • Cartonization and tote picking • Pack station operations • Parcel workflows • Mobile and web UI packing • Pack auditing • Override and exception handling • Packing paperwork

Wholesale Distribution Challenge	Blue Yonder Solution
<p>“I have no end-to-end visibility of orders.”</p>	<p>Blue Yonder’s Order Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous updates and near-zero downtime • Send and receive fulfillment updates to provide real-time order status • Highly scalable and resilient order workflows to align with dynamic fulfillment methodologies, connecting channels, networks, and customer experience
<p>“I don’t have sufficient cross-docking capabilities.”</p>	<p>AFW Cross-Docking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid end-to-end fulfillment with the ability to flow through product from receiving to outbound • Planned and opportunistic cross-dock
<p>“I need to optimize receiving.”</p>	<p>AFW Inbound Processing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad receiving capabilities against purchase orders and ASN, including trailer check-in, directed or undirected unloading, and directed or undirected receiving • Tracking of inventory including details such as lot and date tracking, along with the generation of system-directed putaway activities

Wholesale Distribution Challenge	Blue Yonder Solution
<p>“My outbound processes need work.”</p>	<p>AFW Outbound Processing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation rules and sequencing for FEFO, FIFO, LEFO, and LIFO with exclusions for expired inventory or locations on hold • Replenishment capabilities to refill forward pick locations • Directed and undirected picking with logical tour building for efficiency • Creation of an outbound load/order through interface or template upload • Packing with the ability to change container size and track

Getting Started With Blue Yonder Digital Distribution Solutions for Omni-Channel Execution

Step 1: Triage operational pain points

Identify your operational pain points, then triage them in order of severity. Compare actual performance against KPI and KPA target metrics. Where are you bleeding margin? Which areas of performance are the furthest off the mark? Which areas of your operation would benefit from increased visibility, automation, accuracy, or speed? Which areas have the potential to deliver the highest impact if optimized?

Once you've identified your pain points, a Blue Yonder expert can help you identify the right tools to address them.

Step 2: Speak to a Blue Yonder expert

Work with a Blue Yonder expert to assess your operation and help identify the best tools to meet your immediate and future needs. Identify new potential streams of revenue, and find the right tools to help you commoditize them.

Step 3: Implement

Blue Yonder's digital distribution solutions deliver non-disruptive implementation and quick time-to-value, with minimal training required to get up and running. Once an initial site has been configured by our expert team, subsequent sites can be implemented and activated in a matter of days.



Get in Touch

Please visit <https://blueyonder.com/solutions/adaptive-fulfillment-and-warehousing> and speak with a Blue Yonder expert today

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