

Aptean Routing & Scheduling *Calidus Edition*

Create a Profitable Supply Chain with the Right Technology





With the successful movement of over **<u>\$19 trillion in global annual trade</u>**, supply chains are operating at previously unseen levels every day. Your business needs to be able to fire on all cylinders if you plan to keep up. The potential outcome from the slightest imperfection in operations could be very detrimental.

To avoid these situations, it's essential to identify opportunities for improvement and resolve them as quickly as possible.

We encourage you to analyze the critical areas of your business and explore the right software solutions for your operational needs.

This eBook was created to help you maximize your supply chain.

Are you ready to discover what's next, now?



Using Technology to Become More Operationally Efficient

How do hospitals get their medicine? How are airplanes, coaches, cars and ships made? Not to mention the clothes, food, furniture, and household items manufactured, delivered and used by billions of people worldwide.

Whatever the size, goods, or function of your operation, you are part of something big. You are part of a global industry. You play an essential role in your country's economy by facilitating the import, export and movement of the nation's goods.

While the collective feat of logisticians is extraordinary, your business needs to thrive independently, to fulfill its objectives and contribute to the industry.

The Growth of the Logistics Industry

There are around 180,000 warehouse units currently operating globally. A number set to soar over the next five years as the global ecommerce trade expands.

In the UK alone, road freight delivering to and from distribution centers carry over 1.7 billion tonnes of goods, traveling distances of approximately 18.6 billion kilometers. That's 483 times the distance between planet Earth and the moon!

The growing amount of goods entering countries worldwide from major ports plays a large part in delivering goods to customers every day.

Approximately 500 million tons of cargo are handled by UK supply chains every year. That's just the UK. Imagine the numbers worldwide. The scale of projects undertaken by transportation operations is remarkable especially when you consider the daily tasks of individual delivery operations and the collective performance of the global supply chain industry.

Self-Reflection: Analyze Your Operations for Improvement

With challenges and uncertainty surrounding global supply chains – you must be fully prepared to avoid any potential risk to your business operation. That requires you carrying out strategic analysis of your processes to ensure they're optimized for continuous improvement.

The critical areas of the supply chain are manufacturing, storage, loading and the transportation of goods to the end customer. Each of these components needs to operate at the highest level with seamless integration between functions for the logistics industry to run efficiently.

Wherever you fit into the supply chain, the following questions will help you find the right solution to creating a more robust supply chain.

Manufacturing

Does Your Warehouse Have the Correct Inventory to Fulfill the Required Materials?

Before launching your supply order, modern Warehouse Management Systems (WMS) allocate the required quantity of stock needed to complete the fulfillment. The system maximizes the output of all your components to generate the best quality and the correct quantity of your finished goods.

Is Your Stock Easily Visible at Any Given Time?

Mind-boggling, isn't it?

Integrated transportation and warehouse systems provide complete visibility of what materials are entering your warehouse, how many there are of each, and where exactly they're going to and coming from.

Advancements in tracking software mean misplaced and miscounted stock is a thing of the past. You now have more control over inventory processes and peace of mind every single day.

Can You Improve the Run Times of Your Manufacturing Processes?

Advanced WMS systems not only digitally allocate the materials required to finish your order; the system oversees the picking tasks of your operators who carry out the process too. As well as a mobile navigational dashboard, radio frequency (RF) and voice-enabled live data, the system provides you with real-time updates and accessibility to all of your quantifiable information.

Put simply, your WMS should do more than just manage. As a global supply chain, we are at the stage where software takes you from 'strength to strength' rather than simply 'overseeing' daily tasks.





Warehouse and Storage

Could Your Warehouse be More Efficient?

If knowledge is power, the capture of product-specific data for your stock is a powerful tool to have. Accessible information includes:

- > Sell-by dates
- Manufacture dates
- Serial numbers
- > Temperature readings

Coupled with resource allocation and pick performance monitoring - modern WMS functions ensure complete control of all your operations across multiple sites.

Automation eliminates the risk of human error. Helping you meet internal KPIs and increase your ROI. Having a robust IT infrastructure in place takes care of your most advanced warehouse requirements and enables you to deliver projects on time and in full.

Do You Have Enough Space for Your Stock?

WMS technology uses innovative predictors to quantify stock levels and their replenishments. Having the right amount of necessary stock and storing goods based on picking requirements allows you to make full use of warehouse space.

55% of transportation managers are still organizing their fleet with paper and manual processes. There's so much available space to be harnessed by automating tasks and clearing out the old storage cupboard.

Are you Feeling Pressure From Competitors?

If so, we have a solution for you: digital transformation.

Software that integrates all the core features of WMS and TMS systems is helping to improve the operations of leading supply chains all over the world.

A 'one size fits all' system that simply lists information could be holding you back in a big way. The way forward is to customize and integrate the technology you use as a competitive advantage.

Where are Your Tools? Got Any Spare Pallets Handy?

A worker without their tools cannot work-simple fact.

Using the best supply chain management (SCM) solutions allow you to generate cohesion and seamlessness. But for this, you need the right people using the right tools.

Misplaced equipment or a missing stack of pallets here or there doesn't feel like much of a loss, not until you add up the total costs at the end of the year.

Real-time tracking and stock checking/perpetual inventory will make your life easier while saving costs you may not have considered to be necessary.





Transportation

Have You Been Affected by Driver/Labor Shortages?

There are ways to cut down on your daily workload without compromising efficiency. Automating tasks also saves labor costs and lowers expenses by reducing paper use and removing human error from manual tasks.

For your fleet, TMS gets fewer vehicles delivering goods faster. Fewer, more efficient journeys demand fewer drivers, reducing your wage bill and improving ROI in the process.

The system chooses the fastest routes for optimal efficiency after configuring the perfect loading pattern for your journey. Innovative TMS software optimizes loading based on your products' size and eventual location, resulting in fewer drivers delivering more goods with fewer empty driver miles.

If managing and tracking a large fleet of drivers and traveling goods is a headache, rest assured that TMS is the answer.

Could You be Spending Less on Fuel Costs?

TMS is growing in popularity at such an accelerated rate because it serves the dual functions of simplifying your fleet management and making sure journeys are fully optimized.

Making each truck more efficient with a multi-fleet support operation means you don't need as many drivers delivering goods. Those who do, have shorter journeys and fewer drivers - all of which can save you a small fortune in fuel costs.

Does the Billing Process Slow Your Operations?

Alongside your TMS, an electronic proof of delivery (ePOD) system will allow your drivers faster completion times. Faster deliveries lead to more deliveries made, which eventually leads to significant ROI.

An independent device with barcode scanning and signature captures the perfect way to sign-off orders. The ePOD system automatically sends a confirmation to your TMS system and notifies your end customer of delivery completion.



Your End Customer

Are Your Customer Satisfaction Levels Consistently High?

We know that customer loyalty leads to customer retention. Your service needs to be the fastest, most accurate and most efficient it can be for that to happen. The ability to solve complex planning and organization challenges improves the speed and accuracy of your service, leading to improved customer satisfaction levels.

Dynamic routing and scheduling, automatic allocation of jobs to trips, cross-docking capabilities and automated loading functions offer more precision and efficiency to your transportation management operations. With next-day service becoming a prime offering, any performance gaps could negatively impact your satisfaction levels.

Are Your Customers Fully Updated on the Whereabouts of Their Products?

Customers want to know the status of their order and when it will be delivered. Tracking functionality on a webenabled interface enables your transportation team to monitor the progress of orders, vehicles and separate deliveries with real-time status updates and live ETAs.

Sending updates to your customers of any potential journey disruptions not only improves customer service but also reduces the risk of penalties for late or early deliveries.

A supplier/customer order portal enables customers to view inventory and place orders. Suppliers can then enter product consignments into the network for delivery and collection. All orders can be tracked throughout the entire delivery and billing process for complete visibility.

The Aptean Suite of Products: Strengthening Supply Chains For You, For Your Customers, For the World

Nikos Papageorgiou, a former strategist and operations expert at Deloitte, claims that digital technology is at the forefront of supply chain improvement.



"Imagine an end-customer, logistics manager, or virtually any other stakeholder across the chain scanning a product serial number– let's say with a mobile device – and being able to instantly view the product journey, chain of custody and current status of the product [...] if you haven't started your supply chain digitization journey, you are already late."

Automation has allowed managers to operate seamlessly across several sites and track every detail across the supply chain.

The growth of ecommerce, the expectation of next-day delivery, the massive investment in the global market and increased competition have led delivery chains to invest heavily in software solutions.

These solutions are helping companies to keep up with the surge in demand, shorten delivery times and increase visibility for greater communication between transportation operations and their customers. DHL, for example, invested over \$300 million in emerging technologies to automate the intense picking requirements driven by ecommerce.

Many companies employ separate systems to manage their warehouse and transportation operations; however, a total logistics solution provides a comprehensive system that integrates WMS and TMS.

Whether transporting by road, sea, rail or air, the handling facilities from which those goods are distributed require an overwhelming amount of planning. The scale of these operations requires a level of precision that only automated logistics software can provide.

Choosing the Right Technology to Make You Stronger

Whatever journey they go through, the transportation of goods requires some mode of freight. The majority of holding facilities can have hundreds of vehicles coming in and out of a single warehouse over one day. If your warehouse is not entirely in sync with the freight team, your supply chain could break down.

Similarly, suppose your vehicle is not loaded within its allocated time slot due to warehouse inefficiency. In that case, the backlog of orders, vehicles, and repercussions on customer expectations could harm your business.

But, having the right technology in place can eliminate this challenge and ensure your business thrives. Advanced logistics software will ultimately make your business stronger.

Powering Your Entire Supply Chain

Understandably, some warehouses and holding facilities may not require a transportation management system and some transportation managers may only require fleet management. The flexibility of the more advanced supply chain software, such as those from Aptean, means they can be implemented as standalone modules. It enables you to customize the software based on your most advanced logistics needs.

The demands from our customers, such as DHL, Port of Dover and NHS Blood and Transplant, are vast and immensely specific to the respective organizations because they identified their needs to the very last detail.

WMS, TMS, terminal and yard management, ePOD, bonded storage and dashboard reporting solutions are all available as integrated or standalone software modules. Why? We believe in empowering your entire supply chain. From one end to the other. And we believe in providing you with a solution that fits your exact business needs.

To thrive in this industry - your business needs robust supply chain software. If your business is 99% perfect, we want our solutions to be that extra one percent to ensure your continued supply chain success.



For the logistics supply chain to be most efficient, all sectors—from manufacturing and warehousing to transportation and billing—all need to operate to perfection.

Once you've achieved this, you'll be managing the best version of your supply chain - delivering the best goods in the fastest times to the nation's happiest customers.

Knowing where you are in the market is key to finding the right technology for your business. Aptean Routing & Scheduling is an excellent place to start the next journey of your supply chain evolution.



Are You Ready to Learn More?

Contact us at **info@aptean.com** or visit **www.aptean.com**.





About Aptean

Aptean is one of the world's leading providers of industry-specific software. Our enterprise resource planning and supply chain solutions are uniquely designed to meet the needs of specialized manufacturers and distributors, while our compliance solutions serve specific markets such as finance and life sciences. With both cloud and on-premise deployment options, Aptean's products, services and unmatched expertise help businesses of all sizes, across many industries, to scale and succeed.

For more information, visit www.aptean.com.