



Turn 7 Trends Into Warehouse Management Triumphs

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As shipping continues to evolve, and new solutions become available on a continuous basis, companies have the opportunity to optimize every single link in their supply chain. This allows them to cut costs and increase efficiency during a time of unprecedented competition where customers have nearly unlimited choices. One area where shippers can make a big impact on their bottom line is by optimizing their [warehouse management processes](#). In many cases, shippers have great success in [partnering with a third-party logistics \(3PL\) provider](#) to implement successful warehousing programs.

In this guide, we analyze seven of the most important warehousing trends you need to watch. We also list what you can do to take advantage of them for greater shipping success!

#1

Warehouse Management System (WMS)

An industry-leading WMS can help you with slot optimization, inventory management, inbound and outbound shipping and more. It can also provide you with business intelligence, reporting and predictive analytics to help you streamline every inch of your shipping operations.

What you can do

You can enhance your WMS by integrating it with your [transportation management system \(TMS\)](#), enterprise resource planning (ERP) system and other shipping platforms to improve data sharing and allow better connectivity throughout the supply chain.

#2

Automation

Setting up automated processes helps to minimize data entry error and enables system integrations between your TMS, WMS and e-commerce platforms for a single source of inventory truth. It also helps optimize performance, speed and efficiency in day-to-day warehouse tasks by using robots and cobots.

What you can do

Companies should be open to technological advances. You can also assure your employees, who may be concerned that robots will replace them, that automation technology creates room for advancement and opportunities in other areas.



#3

Dropshipping

Dropshipping allows you to reduce or eliminate warehouse costs and enable expansion of other supply chain responsibilities by fulfilling and shipping orders directly from the manufacturer to the customer or end user.

What you can do

Use an application programming interface (API) to provide [data sharing throughout the enterprise and supply chain](#). This provides a consistent and seamless experience for all involved, and removes the necessity that products spend time in your warehouses.

#4

Reverse Logistics

During recent years, the number of items purchased and shipped throughout the world has increased. Naturally, the number of items returned has increased, too. [Reverse logistics](#) provide companies with solutions to make the most of these returns through reselling, repairing and recycling.

What you can do

Companies can use integration software to connect systems across the supply chain and develop an efficient and cost-effective returns process.

#5

Elastic Logistics

This process enables rapid expansion and contraction of warehouse capabilities as shipping demands fluctuate. For example, companies have the opportunity to efficiently add capability during peak season, while cutting back on resources during slower months.

What you can do

Companies can use predictive analysis along with historical and real-time sales data to determine when to ramp up and cut back on warehouse services and inventory storage.





#6

Transparency

Shippers can increase system optimization and improve customer service by giving shippers, suppliers, carriers, warehouse managers and end users insight into the status of the product and expected delivery at each step.

What you can do

You can utilize an API to connect each part of the supply chain to provide customer-facing shipment tracking capabilities.

#7

Cybersecurity

The amount of technology and data a warehouse collects makes it increasingly vulnerable to cybersecurity issues. Cyberattacks can put an entire business at risk, as well as other companies and individuals it does business with. Businesses must be vigilant with any third party it works with to prevent direct or indirect cyberattacks from an outside source.

What you can do

Follow best practices for cyber security, including employee training, limiting personal devices in sensitive areas, regular system backups, minimizing opportunities for compromise, researching security measures at outside companies and keeping software up to date.

GlobalTranz Is an Industry Leader in Supply Chain Management Services

As a shipper, you have access to an [enormous number of supply chain solutions](#) to help you face today's shipping challenges. But you don't have to implement all these solutions alone. GlobalTranz offers a quality carrier network, a leading transportation management system delivering data-driven insights, and a team of industry experts available around the clock for support. We also inform customers about key supply chain trends that help you prepare for the future.



Ready to take your warehouse management to the next level?

GlobalTranz has the tools, resources and expertise to create tailor-made supply chain solutions for your unique business needs.

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