Hollingsworth

Emerging Technologies in
Supply Chain Management

Emerging Technologies in
Supply Chain Management

Bringing technology into supply chain management has ensured some important advantages including reduced operational cost and errors, improved efficiency, and increased customer satisfaction due to these changes.

Computerized supply chain management has allowed for improved visibility and tracking, revolutionizing modern fulfillment. Some of the benefits of new supply chain management technologies include:

- *Real-time monitoring and tracking.*
- *Reduced costs from errors and inefficiencies.*
- *Integration of smartphones and GPS devices for wireless and portable supply chain technology.*
- *Flexibility for logistics managers.*
- *Reduces or eliminates disruptions in the supply chain.*
- *Improved customer experience and happiness.*

Hollingsworth

Supply Chain Management
Technologies

The following are some of the top new technologies that are improving and progressing supply chain management:

• *Advanced Weighing:*

Supply chains of the past were encumbered by outdated methods of weighing (such as truck scales). **Advanced weighing technologies** like on-board truck scales create more efficiency in the supply chain for seamless operations and enhanced productivity.

• *Analytics Data:*

In this **digital age**, we have access to far more data than ever before. This data is crucial for determining success and areas for improvement within the supply chain, creating the opportunity for far more efficiency, cost savings, and customer happiness.

• *Artificial Intelligence:*

By incorporating artificial intelligence such as **drones and robots,** the supply chain becomes far more efficient, reducing costly mistakes and creating the opportunity for a completely autonomous supply chain. **AI is the key** to the most efficient supply chain.

Supply Chain Management
Technologies

• *Cloud Technology:*

Real-time access to important data used to be unheard of, but with the advent of **cloud technologies**, any manager within the supply chain can access their data and tracking information from any device, anywhere with an internet connection. It also allows for virtual logistics teams, which may offer reduced costs or access to better administrative talent.

• *Radio Frequency Identification:*

RFID technology allows for effective monitoring of products through the supply chain, reducing anomalies and errors to minimize or eliminate losses. These chips are attached or installed on all items for pristine tracking.

• *Shipping Management Software:*

Computerized tracking and shipping makes the distribution process far more efficient, accurate and cost-effective. Tracking can be accessed and managed from a single panel or dashboard, from organizing inventory data and monitoring distribution, to managing shipping and creating electronic bills of landing.

• *Social Media:*

Communication (between humans and robots) *is an important part of the supply chain, and social media has created an opportunity for real-time correspondence between stakeholders. Reporting is also improved, and supply chain brands can increase their online visibility.*

Hollingsworth

Top Supply Chain Management
Software Solutions

Software is at the heart of a lot of supply chain management technologies and systems for improving the efficiency of fulfillment operations.

The following leaders *in supply chain management solutions offer characteristics and features that make them ideal for specific applications and business sizes:*

SAP Supply Chain Solutions: Automating order creation and publishing for small, medium and large businesses.

Epicor: Integrated accounting and financial management for medium and large businesses.

Viewlocity: A Control Tower Platform for small, medium and large technology and military manufacturing companies.

Netsuite ERP: Supply chain solutions for divisions of larger enterprises or high-growth companies.

Infor Lawson: Supply chain management for small, medium and large healthcare organizations.

Sage X3: Concurrent multi-user access solutions for small, medium and large businesses.

Hollingsworth

Top Supply Chain Management
Software Solutions

IBM Sterling WMS: Supports batch, order and item pick processes for medium and large businesses.

IFS Application: Allows combinations of MTCO, CTO and MTS methods of mixed-mode manufacturing for medium and large businesses.

FinancialForce: Inventory tracking by serial number for actual cost analysis.

Oracle E-Business Suite: Supplier relationship management for small, medium and large businesses.

GT Nexus: Tracks production, actual usage and on-hand inventory for medium and large businesses.

JDA Supply Chain Now: Creates and utilizes cross-functional, task-based workflows for medium-sized businesses.

Manhattan SCOPE: Refines operations based on internal and external conditions.

IQMS EnterpriseIQ: Supply chain management that's customized for the automotive, plastics and medical industries.

HighJump Transportation Management: Carriers receive system-generated shipment status requests (SSR).

About Hollingsworth

Hollingsworth is a leading provider of best-in-class logistics and supply chain management, offering fulfillment & distribution, assembly & sequencing, packaging & kitting, reverse logistics, program management, and warehousing services.

The company is headquartered in Dearborn, Michigan, with fulfillment centers located throughout the U.S. Hollingsworth prides itself on efficiency, accuracy, and cost-effectiveness, bringing greater opportunities for increased profits and improved customer satisfaction for its clients in the manufacturing and distribution communities.

www.hollingsworthllc.com