



How to Best Align and Staff Your Distribution!

One of the main challenges when it comes to distribution and supply chain is proper staff utilization and alignment to maximize effectiveness. This is critical as transportation costs continue to soar, ultimately affecting the bottom line more than ever before.

As organizations vary from company to company, some need a centralized approach, whereas others function better in a more decentralized operation. Overall, one of the most important initial factors is to properly assess the equipment and staff ratio needs over the required time period, whether it is necessary to cover a 365/7/24 or other time slots.

HOS (Hours of Service) and other legislative supply chain regulations, as well as, various labor agreements do also need to be considered and kept up to date, as staff work hours are carefully monitored. This is particularly true during off hours and the circadian low. With this, properly trained, rested and certified staff is of utmost importance, not only as a safety measure, but ultimately for greater efficiency and elimination of any potential errors and legal hazards. So are proper managing and motivation of staff, as their enthusiasm make up the margins during critical times.

Inefficient and dated equipment do also add to the staff requirement, as extra time is needed maintaining and locating parts for these. This further affects the uptime as they can cause unneeded service interruptions for drivers, ultimately, sacrificing valuable work hours. Here, under-utilized vehicles and spec'ing are other contributing factors, utilizing more staff and loads than needed.

Customer service is yet another factor to consider when it comes to staff inefficiency. Many customers have certain delivery service requirements needed to be taken into account when delivering the goods. These are not always based on efficiency and logic, but needs to be calculated into the staff allocation.

However, as the supply chain gets more complex, companies start realizing the need for outsourcing, effective supply chain technologies and forecasting gives them a chance to evolve to more sophisticated levels and ultimately reach greater staff efficiency.

Whatever the structure, proper staffing of the supply chain organization is vital to success. Best-in-class companies do best in outsourcing their supply chain needs to experts that ultimately hire supply chain managers with strong communication and relationship management skills, the ability to think strategically and that focuses on value creation and the bottom line.

transervice utilizes a combination of measures and the latest technology to properly align customers' staff and manage their productivity in both union, non-union, as well as supervisory environments, in an effort to produce the most desired results. We have been in business for over 40 years and are known for our long-term Fortune 500 and 1000 client relationships.

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