VIEWLOCITY™

Lower costs and streamline inbound logistics

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine

Do you have control over your inbound shipments and costs?

What should my **transportation budget** be for the coming year?

Do I have sufficient **labor and dock capacity** to handle the inbound volumes that I require?

Is it better to use a **cross-dock** facility or receive shipments **direct** from suppliers?

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine uses optimization techniques to provide the lowest cost inbound logistics plan to meet demand. It can be used at a strategic level to determine inbound transportation budgets as Inbound Planning Engine considers a variety of costs like transportation, handling, inventory, storage and labor. You can also derive an operational plan since the solution considers detailed information surrounding dock capacity, loading/unloading rates, working hours, driver rest times, container and package sizes when producing an optimal inbound plan. You can significantly lower your total costs by minimizing empty truck movements and optimizing equipment utilization.

> " We have worked with Viewlocity to deploy a landmark solution for our industry. Never before has a logistics problem of this complexity been solved, considering the impact of all the variables, and managing the change with speed, accuracy and velocity. "
>
> Gerald E.Joyce,
> Director Global Logistics, Ford
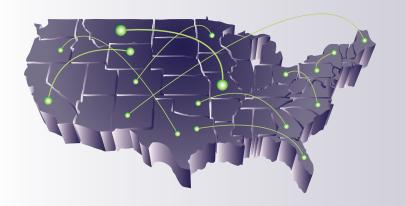
Streamline inbound operations

You may be sacrificing profit by not streamlining your inbound operations. This might result in you facing a higher than normal detention fees due to trucks waiting to be loaded or unloaded. Some of you might be experiencing higher overtime labor costs as you have to react to truck deliveries and departures as opposed to plan for it. Your overall transportation costs might be higher because of suppliers shipping less than full truckloads on a seemingly ad-hoc basis as opposed to consolidating loads and shipping them in a predictable and cost effective manner.

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine allows companies to coordinate all activities – purchasing, transportation, and inventory – based upon the expected consumption of products. Our solution analyzes the costs of inventory carrying, transportation, handling, delivery, and closed loop container programs to help prevent large buildups of inventory by considering the total inbound logistics cost and operations.

Control and visibility

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine helps to coordinate suppliers, inbound logistic providers and carriers with internal operations, thereby controlling the logistics process. Do you know what your optimum inbound logistics costs should be? Do you know the loading and unloading times and the appropriate dock that product from a supplier should be delivered to? Is it better to plan a milk-run route?

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine provides you with a realistic plan to guide your operations by replacing your standard routing guide with a flexible, dynamic tool to efficiently and cost effectively plan the flow of inbound goods. You achieve control over your warehouse operations by being able to better plan for dock and labor capacity.

complex network,
cost effective solution...

Strategic and tactical decisions

Planning applications with an optimization backbone traditionally focus on strategic or tactical planning with users having to interpret and manipulate the plan before it can be executed against. The final plan typically looks quite different from the initial one that was produced by the application. Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine considers detailed real world factors in producing the plan, which can be executed against without modification. Different types of costs are also considered by the product in addition to the obvious transportation and purchase costs.

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine is truly unique that it can determine the appropriate mode of shipment, the optimal routes for moving goods as well as detailed information such as the ideal sequence to load different packages into a single truck. The financial impact of each plan is also made available for the users to evaluate.
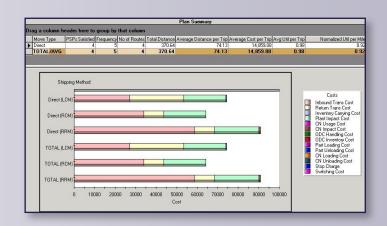
Eliminate guesswork

Several planners can use Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine at the same time and the planners also have the ability to consider individual what-if scenarios. These what-ifs could be used to simulate a wide variety of conditions like the impact of additional labor, additional dock capacity, having two drivers in a truck instead of one, etc. Users also have the ability to freeze parts of the plan and incrementally optimize the remainder of the supply chain. This incorporates user judgment and savvy into the optimization to produce the best possible plan for the business.

Key Benefits

- Reduced total logistics cost, including transportation costs, storage costs, handling costs and detention costs
- Optimal use of resources – labor, dock availability and warehouse space
- Efficient use of trailers and containers

Customer Results

- A leading 3PL company reduced inbound transportation costs by 7% within 6 months
- Ford Motor Company saved 5% of their total inbound freight costs
- A leading 3PL company completed their transportation budget in weeks with 95% accuracy

Imagine efficiently managing the frequency of
the inbound flow of goods from suppliers and
synchronizing it with consumption of inventory.

VIEWLOCITY™

Viewlocity Inbound Planning Engine offers the following features:

Logistics configuration – considers various cost components, including transportation, inventory carrying, and handling costs to configure the flow and frequency of goods by evaluating different transportation schemes to minimize the total delivered cost of each item across the supply chain.
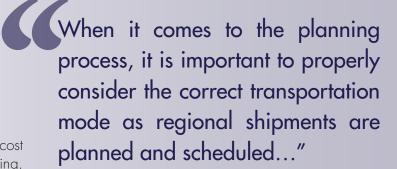
Mode selection – determines the optimal transportation mode for each source/destination combination for every product. Some of the modal decisions include ocean, rail, barge, air, LTL and truckload.

Routing and scheduling – develops daily shipping/receiving schedules based on the delivery frequency of inbound goods from suppliers as well as the dock layout of each shipping and receiving facility. The primary objective is to minimize transportation costs while satisfying plant dock capacity and unloading constraint, balancing the delivery load throughout the week.

Returnable container planning – adjusts the delivery frequency and shipment schedule in order to minimize the overall cost of the solution based on the reverse logistics of planning returnable containers or pallets.

Round trip generation – improves the likelihood and quality of trip consolidation. In many organizations, it provides an effective bridge between inbound, outbound and reverse logistics.

Load configuration – develops an optimal load configuration based on product space utilization for each container for the entire solution.

"When it comes to the planning process, it is important to properly consider the correct transportation mode as regional shipments are planned and scheduled…"

"…it is equally important to consider opportunities to reduce empty miles on an outbound-to-inbound trip by looking at regional inbound loads to and from carriers and suppliers."

Inbound Transportation Management Analyst Insight, Aberdeen Group, Sept 2010

Viewlocity Technologies, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Constellation Software Inc., is a global provider of supply chain software solutions and services. Constellation Software, an international provider of software and services to a variety of industries across the public and private sectors, is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (CSU). Viewlocity Technologies provides supply chain visibility, planning, and optimization solutions that help companies operate efficiently in an increasingly complex supply chain landscape. Global companies such as Pfizer, GE Oil & Gas, Ford Motor Company, UK Ministry of Defense and Planar use Viewlocity solutions to establish responsiveness within their supply chains and maintain a competitive advantage.

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