



# Shipping efficiently using freight service providers.

Small business owners have to wear many hats. From daily operation to marketing duties, accounting to communications, your time is split between an endless number of tasks that seem to pile up. Shipping and logistics are just more tasks vying for your attention. By working with a freight service provider, you can leave shipping to the experts while you focus your time on more important matters. And you can do it all while streamlining your resources and saving money.



## Take back your time.

An eVoice survey concluded that one in four small business owners believes an hour of their time is worth at least \$500. With a fast quoting process, simplified pickup scheduling, automated paperwork creation, and advanced tracking and reporting technology, a freight service provider could save you as much as 20 minutes per shipment – giving you back some of that valuable time.



## Find the best quotes.

With thousands of qualified carriers under contract, freight service providers offer the easiest way to find the largest volume of quotes possible. A single phone call enables you to find the best value carrier for every single shipment. It's like having a dedicated shipping department without paying for the employees.



## Enjoy economies of scale.

Freight service providers negotiate contract rates with carriers based on large shipping volumes. These economies of scale allow them to achieve much lower operating costs per load and provide substantial discounts. These lower rates are especially visible when shipping less-than-truckload.



#### Access more carriers.

Thanks to their close relationships with carriers, freight service providers often know the lanes where they need freight. If you have consistent freight shipping to multiple locations using regular lanes, your provider may be able to analyze and improve service and further drive down costs.



#### Leverage existing TMS tools.

A transportation management system (TMS) is enterprise software that companies use to manage their shipments – from planning and decision making to tracking and measurement. Third party TMS solutions cost money to license and may require trained staff to use. However, many freight service providers offer access to a free TMS solution that can run reports on your freight, analyze shipping patterns and keep scorecards on service quality.



#### Keep up with a dynamic industry.

Transportation rules and regulations are often complicated and prone to frequent changes. Keeping up with them and ensuring carrier compliance can be a daunting challenge and quite costly when a mistake is made. Freight service providers have a back office staff that focuses solely on these issues. They manage carrier contracts, check DOT safety ratings and verify insurance certificates. In the event that you need to make a claim, they're there to help with the whole process.



#### Gain visibility of loads.

Online tracking services provide an efficient way to manage shipments once they've left your dock. Good freight service providers even offer software solutions that integrate with your existing enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems for increased efficiencies throughout your operations.

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#### Reduce back office staff.

Freight service providers offer the systems, manpower and know-how to process thousands of bills a day at a fraction of the cost compared to working directly with carriers. You can dramatically reduce your need for freight audit and payment personnel, allowing you to focus resources where they're needed most.



#### Put years of experience at your fingertips.

Shipping can be a complicated process. With a freight service provider, you have access to their expertise. That means they can help you determine what shipping services you need, how to efficiently prepare your shipment and more. Many can even help you with multimodal shipping, balancing road and rail services to unlock even more lanes and pricing options. They can even help you spot opportunities for new efficiencies in your supply chain.



#### Get unbiased advice.

Some freight service providers are non-asset based. They have no trucks of their own and don't have a financial interest in any carrier. That independence means it's in their best interest to make recommendations that are best for your business.



# Shipping can be a complicated process.

#### About us:

Based in Kansas City, MO, Freightquote is a freight service provider that offers powerful yet easy-to-use online shipping tools, as well as a full-service team of highly responsive freight experts that deliver convenient, one-stop shopping for LTL, truckload and intermodal freight. Freightquote provides customers with streamlined and efficient capabilities to compare competitive rates from multiple contract carriers, book and track shipments and receive dedicated customer service. As a company of C.H. Robinson, Freightquote's stability and resources are strengthened by being part of one of the world's leading 3PLs.