E2open Rates and Schedules Management

Controlling Costs With Easy Multi-Mode Rate and Schedule Comparisons

On average, transportation accounts for 15% of the cost of goods sold. Identifying the most cost-effective ocean, air, rail and truck options can help lower these costs, but manually searching tens of thousands of logistics options is far too costly to be economical. **E2open's Rates and Schedules Management application** lets shippers efficiently sort through carrier options to identify the ones that optimize the cost and speed of the shipment to maintain or improve margins.

Shippers commonly use multiple legs and modes to fulfill the demands of today's consumer. This involves more parties and longer lead times, unpredictable capacity and complex rates with difficult-to-decipher charges, making it difficult to effectively price and route shipments to meet delivery and cost objectives. Teams are often stuck manually searching dozens of sites to obtain transit times and shipping schedules by lane in search of the optimal schedule and carrier. Despite the effort, manual searches usually fail to find the fastest and most economical options, resulting in longer transit times, higher costs and lower customer satisfaction.

One of E2open's Transportation and Logistics intelligent applications, E2open Rates and Schedules Management provides a birds-eye view of available routes and carriers on a consolidated platform. The system shows options in a view based on the shipper's departure and arrival points, desired delivery date and mode. Optimal choices are flagged based on specific criteria. Users can then manually pick or automate the selection based on established company criteria or existing carrier contracts, improving the process for both shippers and logistics services providers.

KEY FEATURES

- Centralizes up-to-date shipping rates and transit times for air, ocean, rail and truck
- Calculates complete bottom-line costs, including all applicable accessorial charges
- Accurately displays alternative services by provider, lane, commodity, hazard designation and date
- Searches for spot rates on some carriers for pricing outside of contracted rates
- Shows all relevant service fee information, including rate agreements and contracted, tariff and internal sell
- Retrieves prices across weight tiers, unit load device (ULD) types, carriers and services

KEY BENEFITS

- 20%-40% improvement in productivity for logistics personnel
- 20%-30% reduction in excess freight and expedite costs
- 60%-70% increase in speed and on-time performance, improving customer satisfaction
- Reduced need for inventory on-hand due to better understanding of historical lane performance
- Lower demurrage, detention and wait time fees

Easy Identification of the Best Shipping Options

The Amazon effect has created new customer expectations for faster and cheaper delivery, putting pressure on logistics teams to continuously improve performance while keeping costs down. E2open Rates and Schedules Management lets them easily find the best transportation options to stay competitive.

One Platform to Find and Evaluate Options

Managing each leg of the journey can be extremely complicated for shippers. Connecting modes and carriers in several platforms is time-consuming and error-prone. Visibility into multi-mode rates and schedules becomes a critical component of speed and cost management that is often missing. This application consolidates multiple carrier, mode and leg options on a single platform, simplifying the process and making logistics teams more productive.

Automatic Adjustments to Account for Contract Details

Importers and exporters have contracts with preferred carriers where costs are based on variable data such as volume commitments, rate stability, accessorial applicability, demurrage and detention. Manually calculating all these variables to determine the option with the lowest landed cost is complex and makes it hard for most companies to identify the optimal choice. This challenge is addressed through a contract publishing service that digitizes carrier contracts and develops the business rules so that the application automatically calculates the correct rates when shippers are comparing options.

Lower Costs and Faster Shipments Through Spot Rates

One way to reduce costs is to take advantage of spot rates. These are dynamic pricing offers from carriers valid for specific lanes and dates to promote services and quickly fill open capacity. Shippers can now search and submit booking requests for lucrative spot rates on some carriers to take advantage of these cost-saving opportunities.

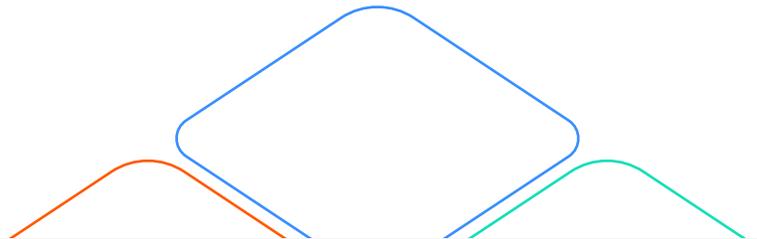### Compatibility With Proprietary Shipping Platforms

Companies can leverage E2open's established network connectivity to carriers to optimize rates and schedules in proprietary shipping platforms through an application programming interface (API) protocol. Built on advanced cloud-based technology for better integration with external systems, the APIs provide smooth and seamless links, eliminating the need for data collection and maintenance. Once implemented, any new data source connections can be re-used without additional work.

Automation That Extends to Bookings

After identifying the optimal carrier, lane and mode, they can create the tender or booking directly with the carrier through integration with E2open's Shipment Bookings and Instructions application. This not only reduces error-prone and time-consuming manual entry but also creates a reliable audit trail.

End-to-End Supply Chain Management Platform

Once an organization implements any E2open platform application, it is easy to add more capabilities in the future for better visibility, coordination and control over the end-to-end supply chain. The E2open platform creates a digital representation of the internal — and optionally external — network, connects internal enterprise resource planning (ERP) and financial systems using SAP® and Oracle® certified adapters for timely data feeds, and normalizes and cleanses the data to make it decision-grade. Using machine learning-enabled algorithms and supply chain management applications, the platform processes the data and provides bi-directional, closed-loop communications back to ERP systems for execution. This facilitates the evolution of supply chain processes towards true convergence of end-to-end planning and execution.

Shippers can quickly view, compare and select the best multi-mode, multi-leg transportation option to save time and money while optimizing logistics performance.