

Do you need a 3PL?

If you manage your company's business shipping, you've likely heard about third-party logistics (3PL) providers — companies that help small and mid-sized businesses (SMBs) streamline and improve their shipping processes.



Did you know that more than 67% of companies outsource some — if not all — of their domestic shipping?¹

Companies like yours save time and money by working with a 3PL provider. But how do you know if a 3PL is the right choice for your business and its unique needs?

Read on as we outline some of the top reasons to consider partnering with a 3PL — and if it's time for your company to make the switch.

Struggling to get affordable rates for your business shipping?

We often hear small and mid-sized shippers lament that they don't have a large enough shipping volume to get the discounted rates that "bigger" shippers have access to. If you struggle to find affordable rates for your business shipping, it may be time to consider a 3PL.

3PLs can leverage the combined shipping volume of their customers to obtain the most competitive small package and freight shipping rates — and can then pass those savings on to SMB customers like you! This helps you receive lower rates for your business shipping, while still providing you with easy access to a full range of top national, regional and local carriers.



Lack the time and energy to manage your shipping?

Let's face it: managing your business shipping can be challenging and time-intensive. If you don't have the proper time to dedicate to your shipping logistics, a 3PL could be the perfect solution for your business.

By partnering with a 3PL provider, you get access to a host of time-saving solutions:



Multiple carrier and service options from one company



A variety of customizable and consolidated invoice types



An easy-to-use, online transportation management system (TMS)



Shipping consultation from a team of seasoned experts

These time-saving solutions not only improve customer satisfaction by increasing your efficiency (and therefore your delivery speeds), but also free up valuable time in your schedule to focus on other important aspects of your business.





Having trouble getting your shipments on the truck?

In times of limited capacity, you may notice more delayed shipments and missed pickups, in addition to increased shipping rates. If you (like many SMBs) struggle to navigate these times of limited capacity, a 3PL could be just what you need.

The most essential role of a 3PL is to help get your shipments on the road — on time and on budget. **3PLs can leverage their relationships with carriers to ensure you have the best chance of getting your shipments picked up and delivered on time.** These carrier relationships also help mitigate rate fluctuations, ensuring you have access to the most affordable rates no matter the current situation.

Don't have access to high-tech shipping solutions?

If you don't have the proper shipping technology, it can lead to increased costs and inefficiencies for your business. While committing to an integrated shipping system might be too big of an investment, most 3PLs have their own proprietary TMS that is typically free for customers to use.

A good TMS helps you seamlessly and efficiently manage your company's transportation processes from one online platform. With a TMS, you not only get easy access to a curated network of carriers, but you also have the ability to:

- Instantly compare costs and delivery options
- → Prepare documentation, such as customs paperwork
- → → → Create and review shipping reports
- → → → → And much more!

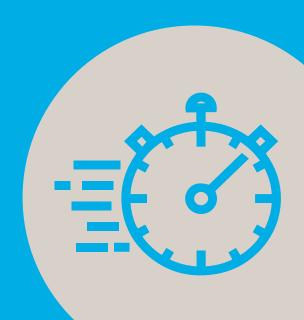
These helpful online tools can make all the difference in your shipping efficiency — and your company's bottom line. If you don't have easy access to a shipping automation tool, consider the cost benefits of partnering with a 3PL.





Manually requesting quotes from multiple carriers in search of the best rates can easily eat into your already limited time. Plus, with invoices from multiple carriers, numerous shipping systems and different contacts at each company to manage, it's easy to get overwhelmed trying to consolidate it all.

If you often find yourself doing time-consuming rate checking, you may want to consider working with a full-service 3PL provider. This gives you access to a large and carefully vetted network of small package and freight carriers — all from one company and on one easy-to-use TMS. This not only eliminates the need for rate checking, but also the hassle of dealing with multiple carrier invoices, contacts, websites and shipping systems.



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Unsure how to optimize your shipping logistics?

If you don't have the time to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the shipping industry, you're not alone! Many SMBs struggle to stay current in the ever-changing world of shipping. That's why many companies choose to work with a 3PL's team of industry experts.

3PLs continually stay informed on industry best practices and the latest developments in technology, packaging and service options so you don't have to. In fact, 73% of 3PL users agree that their 3PL provides new and innovative ways to improve their shipping logistics. What does that mean for your business? It means you can rest easy knowing your logistics are being handled by reliable, seasoned professionals.



Stuck in a shipping rut?



A 3PL can help!

If you identified with any of the struggles that face many SMB shippers, you could likely benefit from partnering with a 3PL like Worldwide Express (WWEX).

WWEX takes the stress out of your business shipping, providing you with the innovative solutions and expert guidance your business needs to thrive in any environment. Contact us today to learn what WWEX can do for your business.

wwex.com