

BEAT THE CLOCK:

12 Keys to Smarter Shipping

While many shippers push fulfillment into small windows and scramble to beat trucks to the door, most businesses can stay ahead of their shipping schedule if they know where to look for efficiencies. It takes a little time management and planning for everyone involved — including your team, carriers and even customers. With small adjustments to your approach, you'll find the pieces of your shipping operation falling into place rather than falling apart.

Use our tips to discover new time management best practices for your shipping.



There are never enough hours in the day to get it all done. But, don't let shipping fall to the wayside. Cutting corners in order fulfillment leads to redoing the work — burning more time, delaying shipments and even creating additional costs.

We understand shipping isn't always a top priority. But you can bet it's critical to customers. Fortunately, you can get ahead by looking for time-saving efficiencies in your processes and systems. That's where Worldwide Express comes in — we help shippers like you build shipping routines that work with your resources, priorities and budget.

It's time to ship smarter.

wwex.com/contact

Improve Processes, Move More Boxes

Set a routine. Build a daily routine for printing labels, booking trucks, packaging and correspondence. Complete these tasks either in early morning or evening hours to sync your shipments with carrier cutoffs and route planning.

Schedule in advance. Work ahead of the clock. End-of-day parcel pickups allow more same-day shipments, while morning freight bookings ensure timely pickups and room for your pallets.

Master your tools. Save time and reduce stress with smarter systems and proficiencies. A transportation management system (TMS) is a single portal to compare rates, consolidate invoices and manage shipments.

Focus on details. Thorough documentation and measurements reduce double-work and carrier calls. Weighing, measuring carefully, and accurately coding and classing according to NMFC standards, ensures you get the truck space you need at the rates you expect.

Set Customer Expectations, Reduce Complications

Be punctual. Nobody likes wondering about order status. Process overnight and weekend orders first thing. Build this into your process to reduce customer calls — freeing more time to ship.

Streamline. Automate customer services such as tracking information and receipts. It'll reduce your manual processes and customers will thank you for prompt service.

Anticipate questions. Eliminate confusion whenever possible. Add critical timeframes such as same-day shipping cutoff times and multi-day delivery timetables for freight to your website and automated phone system.

Build Partnerships, Ship Without Hitches

Pad pickups. Carriers need flexibility, especially for freight. Schedule pickup windows instead of exact times and schedule your routine so packages are ready beforehand.

Lean on strengths. Be it a shipping lane, service or product type, freight carriers specialize. Use their expertise to move shipments faster and with fewer issues.

Full fool-proofing. Take the guesswork out at every level of your shipments. Clearly label everything — freight, parcels and signage for shipping and receiving locations. This limits double-checking and handholding.

Build route routines. Schedule regular parcel and freight pickups — daily if you have the volume. A steady cadence builds rapport with carriers and a routine internally — a double-dip of time-saving benefits.

Consolidate orders. Working with fewer carriers is always faster. Weigh the pros and cons of costs versus time spent shipping with multiple carriers. Less may be more, leading to more productivity and simpler shipping.