You’re Looking at the Wrong Part of Your Supply Chain for Savings

Five Ways Supply Chain Executives are Achieving a 3X Investment in the Yard
Supply chain budgets have been updated, revised and revised again in the wake of global supply chain disruptions. In reviewing your own spend, you may notice a trend emerging: a significant increase not just in the cost to secure capacity, but the costs of holding onto assets for too long as well. When coupled with labor shortages and customer demands, reining in the high costs of facility operations is a necessary part of any executive’s supply chain strategy.

In this guide, you’ll learn how the right yard management solution (YMS) can:

- Reverse the rising tide of cost
- Improve labor productivity
- Guide continuous improvement
- Help your teams regain control of the major cost centers in your business

Implementing new systems at the height of supply chain disruption may seem like a distracting task, but with cost, capacity and labor each hurting productivity and logistics budgets, SaaS-focused investments, like a YMS, can solve numerous problems at once.

Built on the same platform that more than 750 of the world’s most recognized brands rely on for global supply chain visibility, FourKites is bringing game-changing technology to the yard. By combining real-time visibility and powerful machine learning, Dynamic Yard optimizes the activities and resources involved in the transition of shipments between gate and facility.

Armed with increased transparency, automation and proactive problem solving, sites that leverage the next-generation of yard solution are primed for success across a number of important KPIs. In this report we’ll highlight 5 key improvements shippers can anticipate.
5 Key Improvements That Deliver 3X ROI with FourKites Dynamic Yard

1. Enablement of 100% Detention Cost Avoidance
2. 20-30% Increase in Site Labor Productivity
3. Revolutionary Inventory Management & Protection
4. Fully Digitized Operations & Data Standardization
5. Cold Chain Compliance & Penalty Avoidance

By combining the industry’s leading freight visibility platform with an innovative YMS, FourKites Dynamic Yard delivers immediate savings and the potential for 3x ROI and a full return in less than 8 months.
As the sum of carrier detention fees and fines soar, Dynamic Yard systemically tracks the location and lifecycle of each asset, while proactively alerting your team when free time windows are expiring to help prioritize which trailers get loaded.

Granular tracking of activity enables rapid resolution to detention claims and helps eliminate invalid charges. Automated reporting identifies operational and provider patterns that help make informed decisions on pool size and future carrier agreements.

The current shipping environment has given providers more leverage over their shipper customers, but by ensuring efficient driver and equipment turn times, shippers can reset the balance and gain shipper of choice status.

Enablement of 100% Detention Cost Avoidance

In an industry averaging over 2.5 hours of driver detention, FourKites Dynamic Yard customers average less than 2 hours.


“To be relevant with transportation providers, Trane needs to be friendly for carriers to do business with. FourKites’ yard management system allows truckers to choose the slot they want and allows truckers to get back on the road faster.”

TOM FRANCE
VP OF DISTRIBUTION, LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION, TRANE
Non-productive tasks are empty costs for your facility. Eliminate these time-wasters, the product of antiquated, manual yard operations:

- Physically searching for trailers on a lot
- Checking trailer temperatures
- Resetting docks
- Collecting and entering driver details
- Taking inventory of capacity pools

Empowering your staff through automation of key processes, IoT-enabled pool inventory management, digitized gate operations and dynamic job task assignment is not only achievable today, but crucial as your business plans for future operating environments.

Dynamic Yard automatically tracks each inbound order to alert of any exceptions that may put the schedule at risk. With new ETAs in hand, yard teams can quickly shuffle appointments, stage correct freight and **avoid the ripple effect caused by carrier non-compliance or deviations.**

As soon as a shipment arrives, the platform dictates a flow of tasks for dock workers while monitoring time to complete, ensuring no job lingers outside of expectations which can contribute to carrier detention costs.

**Better visibility into how full the trailers were and what was in trailers allowed Trane to move from a “first in, first out” process at the docks to being able to make better decisions on which truck really needed to be worked on as soon as possible.**
As soon as inventory hits the yard, it gets lost in a blurry shuffle of trailers. Depending on the size of your facility, the inability to quickly locate “arrived inventory” in a trailer can put outbound orders or production lines at risk. Dynamic Yard tracks each inbound order not by just the trailer and PO number, but by each individual SKU. With passive RFID technology and IoT integration, the platform can quickly tell teams where needed items are in the yard to help respond to customer or production demand.

Accurate and accessible inventory data for your yard opens up a new opportunity: the ability to use on-site trailers as warehouse overflow capacity. As your facility experiences a surge in materials or seasonal inventory changes, flexing portions of your inventory to the yard frees up warehouse space. When combined with your WMS and TMS systems, teams have advanced visibility and insight into expected inventory to help prioritize loads to meet production or cross-dock demand.

Using empty trailers as warehouse overflow capacity provides greater agility for your supply chain operations.

Each trailer can store up to 52 standard size pallets.
When you look across your facility network, comparing operational and cost performance between facilities can be a difficult task. With a diverse set of footprints, carrier bases, hours and more, extracting relevant data for comparison can seem more like an art than a science.

Dynamic Yard and the FourKites platform create a digital twin for your operations to generate key data to be compared on a broad scale. Down to the asset or employee level, each task is monitored to provide granular insight into operations. Key performance indicators and operational best practices can then be normalized, anonymized, and shared to drive continuous improvement across your facility network.

Read the article about Trane’s partnership with FourKites in Logistics Viewpoints.
Cold Chain Compliance & Penalty Avoidance

With your full inventory at your fingertips – no matter if it’s in the yard or within the facility – responsiveness to customer orders is dramatically improved.

POs are planned by the SKU, and if dock workers aren’t able to quickly locate inventory due to lack of real-time visibility, loads can be rolled and fines incurred. With a full view of inventory, the quick processing of loads is guaranteed through the ability to pinpoint the location of items, even those currently in transit, helping to keep schedules aligned and operations fluid.

Each year, millions of dollars in temperature-sensitive inventory are lost to spoilage as refrigerated units fail with little warning. The manual process of tracking temperature-sensitive or hazardous materials is neither efficient nor accurate. The Auto Product Protection component of Dynamic Yard enables the precise tracking of each temperature-controlled trailer and proactively alerts your teams if the temperature trends away from the trailer’s set point to keep shipments safe.

In addition to preventing inventory loss with proactive alerting, Dynamic Yard provides peace of mind for record keeping surrounding compliance. As your business continually searches for ways to better comply with the FDA’s Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), Auto Product Protection provides a validated record of each shipment’s location and temperature with a timestamp to defend against claims as cargo changes custody of control.
Unlock the Value Hidden in Your Yard

The value of a next-generation YMS, as outlined here, is undeniable. A YMS is essential not just to rein in logistics costs, but to set your business up to compete in today’s complex supply chain environment. There’s no quick fix to solve supply chain disruption; but with improved network visibility and the right technology solutions, key stakeholders from around your business are given access to real-time data to make better decisions and focus on what matters.

Dynamic Yard is an investment that rapidly begins generating ROI and will help cost centers avoid the scrutiny when costs rise out of control and their root is not understood or controlled.

Dynamic Yard client, Trane, got payback from this implementation in less than 3 months by reducing detention fees alone.
Learn More

To find out more about Dynamic Yard and how we can help generate over 3X ROI for a YMS investment, visit www.fourkites.com/platform/yard-management/ or contact our yard experts at hello@fourkites.com.