

FINDING OPTIMAL WAREHOUSE CAPACITY: IT'S MORE THAN SIZE



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OPTIMAL WAREHOUSE CAPACITY



In today's highly competitive business environment, optimizing warehouse capacity is crucial for companies looking to improve operational efficiency, reduce costs, and meet customer demands effectively. The key to achieving optimal warehouse capacity lies in a combination of:

- ▶ Effective planning
- ▶ Utilization of technology
- ▶ Partnering with a third-party logistics (3PL)

One of the most effective ways to achieve optimization is by partnering with a 3PL provider that also offers transportation services.

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Seamless, Single Source Capacity

One of the primary advantages of partnering with a 3PL provider that also handles trucking is the seamless coordination between transportation and warehousing functions. This integrated approach allows for improved inventory management, reduced transit times, and increased visibility throughout the supply chain.

By leveraging their warehouse management and transportation expertise, a 3PL provider can optimize routes, consolidate shipments, and ensure timely delivery of goods – leading to enhanced customer satisfaction.

Does your product line require ambient or temperature-controlled distribution? The shortlist needs to focus on both refrigerated and dry transportation options. This is particularly important for businesses dealing with perishable goods or products that require specific temperature control. Ensuring that the warehouse has the capacity to store and transport these goods safely can prevent spoilage or damage, resulting in financial losses.

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“It is important to look for a 3PL that offers flexible solutions, reliable tracking systems, and a strong network of transportation partners.”

Business Daily





Scalability

Shippers can also leverage the flexibility it provides in terms of scalability. As businesses grow, the need for more warehouse space can arise.

With a 3PL partner, scaling up warehouse capacity becomes more manageable. Their expertise in inventory forecasting and demand planning can help identify warehouse expansion needs in advance, ensuring that growth opportunities are properly supported and not hindered by finding short-term supplemental storage. Furthermore, a 3PL provider can help optimize the utilization of existing warehouse space through efficient racking systems and layout designs, maximizing storage capacity and freeing up valuable real estate.

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“Outsourcing to a 3PL means gaining access to their cutting-edge technology and expertise, enabling e-commerce businesses to optimize inventory management, reduce errors, and speed up shipping times”. *Forbes*



Consider Value-Added Service Capacity

One important aspect to consider when determining warehouse capacity is the range of value-added services offered at the facility. Can your 3PL utilize its capacity to extend your final order fulfillment with accuracy, efficiency, and quality, including customer service.



3PLs handle the picking, packing, and shipping of orders. Their systems are often integrated with e-commerce platforms, allowing for real-time updates and seamless order processing.



Handling returns is a critical aspect of e-commerce. 3PLs offer streamlined returns management services, including inspection, restocking, and even refurbishing returned items.



A robust technology stack is essential for efficient operations. Most 3PLs offer APIs and other integration options to sync with e-commerce platforms, Enterprise Resource Planning.



In a consumer-centric industry, the importance of customer service cannot be overstated. 3PLs often provide tracking solutions and customer support to enhance the end-user experience.



By outsourcing logistics to a 3PL, e-commerce businesses can achieve economies of scale, reducing operational costs and increasing profitability.



Ensuring regulatory compliance and data security is paramount. Reputable 3PLs adhere to industry standards and employ stringent security measures.

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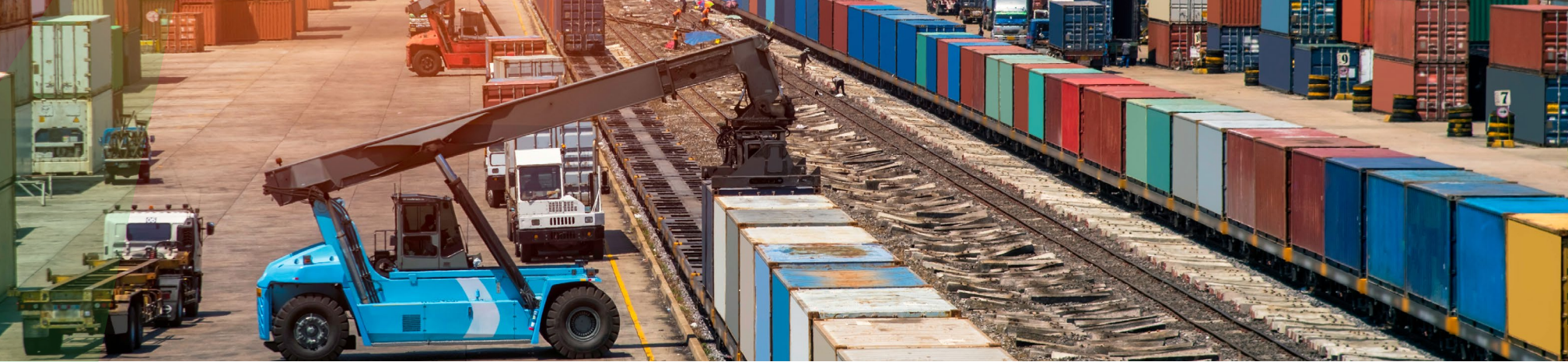
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Transloading Services

Warehouses that offer transloading services can provide a significant advantage to businesses involved in global trade or bulk material. Transloading involves transferring goods directly from one mode of transportation to another, such as from a ship to a truck or vice versa. This eliminates the need for additional warehousing and reduces transit time and costs. When considering warehouse capacity, ensure that the facility has the necessary infrastructure and space to handle transloading operations efficiently, bulk to bucket or ship to shore.

Transloading benefits:

- **Rapid Turnaround:** Cut down inventory holding times to ensure a more efficient process from supplier to customer.
- **Cost Minimization:** Lower your inventory concerning storage and warehousing costs, significantly impacting your bottom cost.
- **Streamlined Supply Chain:** Experience an efficient, lean, and agile supply chain that can adjust to dynamic changes in demand.

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A Capacity for Safety and Efficiency

A commitment to safety in logistics is grounded in rigorous protocols, a highly trained team, and the strategic use of technology. Warehouse facilities are designed and maintained to ensure safe storage, with systems in place for the specific products handles. Meanwhile, our trucking operations follow the highest safety standards, with ongoing driver safety training and reliable, well-maintained vehicles. Goods must be stored, handled, and transported efficiently but also securely, damage-free with zero blind spots in tracing.

Cost optimization is another critical aspect of finding the optimal warehouse capacity. The right single-source partner can optimize consolidated transportation routes and reduce shipping costs. A 3PL provider with an extensive network of carriers can negotiate better freight rates, leading to significant savings. Moreover, the ability to outsource trucking services eliminates the need for investing in a dedicated fleet, reducing overhead costs associated with driver hiring, training, and vehicle maintenance.

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What makes **Wavepoint 3PL** a better solution?

Finding optimal warehouse capacity is a multifaceted challenge that requires careful planning, utilization of technology, and, importantly, partnering with a 3PL provider that also offers trucking services, such as Wavepoint. Give us a call, and we can recommend how managing warehousing capacity can play a role in your specific supply chain strategy.

Wavepoint 3PL can also help you develop a metrics-based analysis of current supply chain operations to evaluate performance as it relates to:

- ▶ **Bottom-line efficiencies**
- ▶ **Corporate objectives**
- ▶ **KPIs measured against best practices**

Our optimization and modeling tools support supply chain evaluations, facility network appraisals, transportation assessments, and warehousing and inventory analysis.

Wavepoint 3PL is your flexible logistic services provider for streamlined solutions from LTL and truckload services through an asset-based fleet; warehouse and inventory management in food grade facilities; and technology-enabled omnichannel fulfillment services, among other value-added offerings.

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Ready for change? Connect with the Wavepoint 3PL team today.

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