Planning for incoming deliveries can be very time-consuming for retail store managers. It’s often based on broad assumptions and requires a lot of guesswork. Frequently stores are staffed for shipments that don’t arrive or understaffed for large unexpected deliveries. Plus, managers don’t know what product they are receiving until the delivery arrives and they have opened the cartons. The result? Wasted time and money.

Retail operations can reduce uncertainty and increase planning efficiency with detailed visibility of the flow of goods from distribution centers to stores.
Descartes StoreTrac is an easy-to-use tool that provides dynamic data for incoming deliveries to retail stores. Using a simple, streamlined interface, store employees can see updated shipment information, including:

- **Quantity**: Carton and unit counts are constantly updated so you know how much labor will be needed for deliveries.
- **Delivery Date and Window**: With real-time status updates, stores can be confident that planned deliveries will actually happen.
- **Carton Contents**: Every shipment is broken down by category and SKU to help staff plan floor readiness (ticketing, folding, hanging) and assist visual teams planning store displays.
- **Carrier**: Stores can prepare for carrier-specific processes such as delivery to the receiving dock versus through the front door.

### HOW DESCARTES STORETRAC CAN BENEFIT YOUR BUSINESS

Knowing the category and SKU mix for each shipment enables more accurate labor planning, increases employee productivity and positively impacts your company’s bottom line. Here’s how:

- Using real-time delivery data, you can efficiently staff the right people for a delivery based on what’s in a shipment and when it will arrive.
- Store associates can easily look up estimated delivery dates/windows for incoming shipments versus communicating with carriers or corporate logistics teams via phone or email.
- Associates will spend less time randomly unpacking boxes searching for specific products because they know carton contents down to the SKU level.
- Managing delivery exceptions such as damaged or missing cartons will also take less time.
- Merchandisers can use advanced planning capabilities to be more productive sorting, processing and putting items on the store floor. Product displays can be pre-determined prior to receiving shipments.
- Potential revenue can be gained by avoiding pulling associates off the sales floor to receive “surprise” deliveries and by not staffing for shipments that don’t arrive.
- Associates can react quicker to rush requests and easily answer in-store replenishment inquiries from customers to improve the experience and “save the sale.”

As a result, the retailer was able to cut store receiving labor costs nearly in half in many locations, resulting in more than $1M annual savings.

One retail company with over 480 store locations reported significant planning improvements using Descartes StoreTrac.
ABOUT DESCARTES STORETRAC

Descartes StoreTrac facilitates accurate labor planning and promotes quick decision-making for shipment receipt.

- **Mode Agnostic**
  Available for retailers using pool distribution, truckload, LTL and parcel

- **Single Point of Integration**
  Efficient deployment plan and employee online training

- **Easy Access**
  Web based, no local installation needed

- **Simple User Interface**
  Designed to account for typical store employee turnover

- **Client-Configurable Reports**
  CSV, PDF and JPEG export options

- **Analytics**
  Corporate and regional store groupings available for summaries
Descartes: Uniting the People & Technology That Move the World

Descartes is a global leader in uniting businesses in commerce by providing cloud-based logistics and supply chain solutions that improve productivity, performance and security.

Leading retailers both large and small depend on Descartes technology to better manage the end-to-end processes involved in the transportation of goods from suppliers to end consumers. Whether the challenge is store distribution, home delivery or global/local inbound logistics, Descartes solutions using real-time collaboration and shared visibility help retailers ensure the right goods are transported to the right location, at the right time and for the lowest cost.

For more specifics on how Descartes StoreTrac can help your company optimize labor planning and gain additional revenue potential, visit descartes.com/industries/retail