

Product Information

Descartes Transport Management System Infodis[™] Data Quality



One of the primary challenges in logistics and logistics partnerships is managing the quality of the data. Systems and solutions need to be put in place to be sure that the reports and key performance indicators (KPIs) that you are using to run your business are accurate.

Ideally your carriers should have signed a Service Level Agreement that names the events they have to report on and the maximum interval between the actual event and the reporting on it. In practice there can be many reasons why a carrier does not meet the SLA. A fine working EDI connection may deteriorate: a change in the carriers transport management system, unintentional change in message or loss of connection. And if carriers are depending on manual event reporting by a planner a change in staffing due to holidays, illness or job rotation might easily result in SLA violation.

Using a system like Descartes' Transport Data Warehouse is a rich source of transport related information. All data is retained for at least 18 months. The data gives you insight to carrier performance, your logistic efficiency and it shows you network optimization possibilities that will save you money. For measuring the performance of the carriers you have selected you will have to rely on the data of your carriers. Are they sending the right data at the right time or not?

The Big Picture

Descartes TMS ID solution helps logistics professionals quickly evaluate money-saving transportation and shipping options, and then execute those shipments with contract carriers. Built to accommodate the end-to-end supply chain management process, the solution also supports order management through consolidation, financial settlement and auditing.



By using an automated system your carrier performance will be monitored and should the KPI's not be met, Descartes will investigate the root cause by checking the EDI link and contact the carrier if necessary. If there are no technical problems or if the technical problems cannot be solved, the system will warn you that the carrier no longer meets the SLA. It is then up to you how you proceed. However, most problems are detected at an earlier stage.

Descartes has a variety of tools available that monitor the incoming data and the processing of the data:

- Errors in a message are reported automatically to the sender
- Inconsistent data is reported during processing
- Messages that cannot be processed are put on hold and corrective measures are taken
- Missing status reports are sent to the carrier
- Non-functional communication links are noticed automatically and action is taken to bring the link up again

With a proper system to monitor data quality you can be confident that your KPI's are sourced off of reliable information.

