Provide visibility across supplier and carrier networks

IBM Sterling Supply Chain Visibility Inbound

Benefits

- Reduce lead-time variability by identifying and adjusting to supply exceptions in real-time
- Improve supplier compliance by detecting potential order delays or shortages even before the order is shipped
- Reduce blind spots through supply chain process models that track the order lifecycle and alert on potential bottlenecks

Related offerings

- IBM® Sterling Web Forms
- IBM® Sterling Supply Chain Visibility Outbound
- IBM® Sterling Transportation Management System
- IBM® Sterling B2B Collaboration Network

IBM® Sterling Supply Chain Visibility for inbound order tracking combines data from your procurement, transportation, and warehouse applications with data already flowing through the Sterling B2B Collaboration Network from your trading partners to give you visibility into the entire procure-to-pay process. Many systems and logistics partners can track aspects of the inbound supply process, but not the entire procure-to-pay process, resulting in potential blind spots.

Sterling Supply Chain Visibility reduces blind spots by providing you with a view of the entire inbound order lifecycle allowing you to track and control all aspects of inbound ordering and alert on potential exceptions. Buyers will be able to view the order from creation to shipment, transportation personnel will be able to view the order in transit from the supplier to receipt, and warehouse personnel will be able to view when the order has arrived at the yard to insure the product is received and put away on time.

Reduce lead time variability

To reduce lead time variability, Sterling Supply Chain Visibility equips your enterprise with a supply chain process modeler to create milestones and configure targeted alerts that detect and notify you when predetermined lead times have been missed. Realtime visibility into the location and balance of inventory helps you reduce lead-time variability, inventory stock-outs, and expediting costs throughout your global supply chain network.

Improve supplier compliance

To improve supplier compliance, Sterling Supply Chain Visibility enables you to track and report on established performance metrics, then drill down into details associated with each metric. You can track various aspects of supplier timeliness, accuracy and fill rates and compare them to user defined thresholds to alert when a specific order is out of compliance even before the order has shipped.

Enhance visibility

Sterling Supply Chain Visibility provides visibility across your supplier and carrier networks by including non-EDI suppliers and carriers with those that are EDI enabled to provide electronic status updates. With the additional visibility into shipment moves from outsourcing partners, you can determine bottlenecks, noncompliance, and locate orders that are stagnating at cross docks, intermodal transfer points, and during receiving.

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Accelerate time to benefit and ROI with the following capabilities

Capability	Description
Exception management	• Complete purchase order lifecycle tracking • Create custom alerts based on user defined criteria • Alert routing and management • Real-time estimated time of arrival (ETA) based on carrier status updates • Real-time snapshot of supply chain events and performance information
Process modeling	• Create milestones and track the order lifecycle through situation specific order flows • Configure alerts to identify and notify when exceptions occur in the inbound order flow process • Define tolerance specific to pre-set supply chain thresholds outside of which an alert will be raised
Performance monitoring	• Configure key performance indicators to measure supplier delivery performance over time • Drill down into details associated with each metric

Trading partner connectivity	• Route transactions from EDI networks through Sterling Supply Chain Visibility
	• Leverage Sterling Web Forms to:
	  – Enable non-EDI suppliers to view purchase orders, order changes, order acknowledgements, and payment remittance
	  – Create UCC-128 compliant advance shipment notices (ASN), labels and packing slips, request shipment routing, and process invoices
	• Leverage the Sterling Transportation Management System Carrier Portal to:
	  – Enable non-EDI carriers to submit shipment statuses online

About Sterling Commerce

Sterling Commerce, an IBM® Company, helps organizations worldwide increase business agility in their dynamic business network through innovative solutions for selling and fulfillment and for seamless and secure integration with customers, partners and suppliers. More information can be found at **www.sterlingcommerce.com.**

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