
Global Certificate Course in Humanitarian Logistics Renewal Programs

Transportation and Fleet Management

Transportation and Fleet Management Glossary

A

Asset Management: Asset management refers to the systematic process of developing, operating, maintaining, upgrading, and disposing of assets cost-effectively. In transportation and fleet management, asset management involves managing vehicles, equipment, and infrastructure to maximize efficiency and minimize costs.

B

Bill of Lading (BOL): A bill of lading is a legal document issued by a carrier to a shipper that details the type, quantity, and destination of goods being transported. It serves as a receipt for the goods and a contract for transportation between the shipper and carrier.

C

Carrier: A carrier is a company or individual that transports goods or passengers from one place to another. Carriers can include trucking companies, airlines, shipping lines, and railroads.

Cost per Mile: Cost per mile is a key performance indicator used in transportation and fleet management to measure the cost of operating a vehicle per mile traveled. It includes expenses such as fuel, maintenance, insurance, and depreciation.

D

Driver Qualification File (DQF): A driver qualification file is a collection of documents and records that verify a driver's qualifications and compliance with regulations. It typically includes items such as driver's license, medical certificates, and driving record.

E

Electronic Logging Device (ELD): An electronic logging device is a technology that automatically records a driver's hours of service and duty status. ELDs are used to ensure compliance with hours of service regulations and improve safety in the transportation industry.

F

Fleet Management: Fleet management is the process of managing a fleet of vehicles to ensure optimal performance, efficiency, and compliance with regulations. It involves tasks such as vehicle maintenance, fuel management, and driver safety.

Fuel Efficiency: Fuel efficiency refers to the ability of a vehicle to maximize the distance traveled per unit of fuel consumed. Improving fuel efficiency is a key goal in transportation and fleet management to reduce operating costs and environmental impact.

G

Global Positioning System (GPS): The Global Positioning System is a satellite-based navigation system that provides location and time information to users anywhere on Earth. GPS technology is commonly used in transportation and fleet management to track vehicles and optimize routes.

H

Hazardous Materials (Hazmat): Hazardous materials are substances that pose a risk to health, safety, property, or the environment. In transportation and fleet management, handling and transporting hazardous materials requires compliance with specific regulations to ensure safety.

Hours of Service (HOS): Hours of service regulations are rules that govern the amount of time commercial drivers can spend behind the wheel. These regulations are designed to prevent fatigue-related accidents and ensure driver safety in the transportation industry.

I

Incident Management: Incident management refers to the process of responding to and resolving unexpected events or emergencies that disrupt transportation operations. Effective incident management is essential in ensuring the safety of drivers and minimizing disruptions.

Inventory Management: Inventory management involves overseeing the flow of goods in and out of an organization's inventory. In transportation and fleet management, inventory management includes tracking spare parts, fuel, and other supplies needed to support operations.

J

Just-In-Time (JIT) Delivery: Just-in-time delivery is a strategy that aims to minimize inventory storage costs by delivering goods exactly when they are needed. JIT delivery is commonly used in transportation and fleet management to reduce waste and improve efficiency.

K

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Key performance indicators are measurable values that demonstrate how

effectively an organization is achieving its objectives. In transportation and fleet management, KPIs can include metrics such as on-time delivery, fuel efficiency, and maintenance costs.

L

Load Optimization: Load optimization is the process of maximizing the use of available space in vehicles to transport goods more efficiently. By optimizing loads, transportation and fleet managers can reduce costs and improve productivity.

M

Maintenance Management: Maintenance management involves planning, scheduling, and overseeing the maintenance of vehicles and equipment to ensure they remain in optimal condition. Effective maintenance management is essential in preventing breakdowns and ensuring safety.

N

Non-Asset Based Carrier: A non-asset based carrier is a transportation provider that does not own or operate its own vehicles. Instead, non-asset based carriers arrange transportation services through partnerships with other carriers to meet their customers' needs.

O

Outsourcing: Outsourcing is the practice of contracting out specific activities or services to external providers. In transportation and fleet management, outsourcing can include services such as maintenance, fueling, and dispatching to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

P

Preventive Maintenance: Preventive maintenance is a proactive approach to vehicle maintenance that involves regularly inspecting, servicing, and repairing vehicles to prevent breakdowns and prolong their lifespan. Preventive maintenance is essential in ensuring the reliability of fleet operations.

Q

Quality Management: Quality management is a systematic approach to ensuring that products or services meet or exceed customer expectations. In transportation and fleet management, quality management focuses on delivering reliable, safe, and on-time services to customers.

R

Routing and Scheduling: Routing and scheduling involve determining the most efficient routes and optimal schedules for vehicles to transport goods or passengers. By optimizing routing and scheduling,

transportation and fleet managers can reduce costs and improve service quality.

S

Safety Management: Safety management is the process of identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks to ensure the safety of drivers, passengers, and cargo. In transportation and fleet management, safety management includes implementing policies, training, and procedures to prevent accidents and injuries.

Supply Chain Management: Supply chain management is the coordination of activities involved in sourcing, producing, and delivering goods to customers. In transportation and fleet management, supply chain management includes optimizing transportation networks and integrating logistics processes to improve efficiency.

T

Telematics: Telematics is a technology that integrates telecommunications and informatics to monitor and track vehicles in real-time. Telematics systems collect data on vehicle location, speed, fuel consumption, and engine diagnostics to improve fleet management and driver safety.

Transportation Management System (TMS): A transportation management system is a software solution that helps organizations plan, execute, and optimize the movement of goods. TMSs provide features such as route planning, load optimization, and freight audit to improve transportation efficiency.

U

Utilization Rate: Utilization rate is a measure of how effectively a vehicle or asset is being used. In transportation and fleet management, utilization rate can indicate whether vehicles are being deployed efficiently and help identify opportunities to improve productivity.

V

Vehicle Tracking: Vehicle tracking is the process of monitoring the location and status of vehicles in real-time. By using GPS technology and telematics systems, transportation and fleet managers can track vehicles, optimize routes, and improve operational efficiency.

W

Warehouse Management System (WMS): A warehouse management system is a software solution that helps organizations manage and control warehouse operations. In transportation and fleet management, WMSs are used to track inventory, optimize storage space, and streamline order fulfillment processes.