Supply Chain Analytics: Deliver More with Less

Boost your efficiency and reduce costs with data insights
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Supply chain disruptions impact all industries

Navigating today’s global supply chain is no simple task. From manufacturing through to the last mile, a typical supply chain is characterized by complexity, rife with risk, and prone to frequent disruptions that derail customer expectations.

Faced with these adversities, businesses are seeking more effective ways to anticipate and absorb the shocks, especially when the impact is felt globally. Forward-looking companies are finding that behind these challenges lie opportunities to optimize their supply chain and minimize the impact of disruptions—no matter the scale.

Tableau Supply Chain Analytics gives you visibility across your entire supply chain by integrating data from your existing systems and creating a real-time, single source of truth. The solution enables you to securely share and consume insights internally at all levels of your organization and externally with your supply chain partners. The result? A business environment that fosters collaboration and provides democratized access to predictive analytics across your network.

Leveraging the Tableau solution to analyze your supply chain’s performance leads to finding new efficiencies, reduced costs, and increased productivity. In brief: you can transform your supply chain with insights from your existing systems.

Numbers tell the story

**Manufacturing**
31% growth in food commodity prices over a 12-month period

**Shipping**
6X increase in shipping costs from China to Europe

**Logistics**
80K truck-driver vacancies in the U.S. (October 2021)

**Stores**
1M-plus retail vacancies in the U.S. (October 2021)

**Last mile**
37% growth in U.S. parcel volume in 2020

Today’s new-normal supply chain demands resilience

Supply chain organizations only realize revenue when goods are delivered and invoiced. Supply chains impact a company’s:

- Working capital
- Cost base
- Competitive advantage
- Customer experience
- Revenue growth or stagnation
- Profitability
- Short- and long-term viability

Yet 85 percent of supply chain leaders struggled with insufficient digital technologies in their supply chains*. Why the confidence gap? The pandemic-induced crisis revealed weaknesses that forced organizations to focus on gaining the resilience they need to cope with frequent disruptions across every stage of the supply chain—for virtually every industry.

With risks and friction points amplified by a double bullwhip effect (one from the customer side and one from the supplier side), plus legacy systems and complex processes that can no longer keep up, companies are turning to data to increase their supply chain’s agility, efficiency, and effectiveness. And to be candid, it’s a pivot that’s long overdue.

Tableau supply chain analytics help you manage the volatility with actionable insights across your supply chain. Leveraging easy-to-consume data visualizations, you can:

- Mitigate disruptions faster with end-to-end data visibility
- Navigate the chaos and stabilize costs with no-code AI and ML predictive analytics
- Share insights easily and securely across your network to increase productivity, build stronger relationships, and deliver better customer experiences
- Empower your teams to make informed decisions, boost revenue, and increase efficiency at scale

*McKinsey, July 23, 2020
Flex leverages Tableau to deliver insights that monitor supply chain health and performance

Flex is a global supply chain and manufacturing solutions provider. The company helps customers design, build, and deliver products to make the world a better place.

Challenge
Supply chain data was highly fragmented and siloed. Existing analytics capabilities could not provide valuable visualizations. Flex lacked real-time insights into operational data and the ability to make data-driven decisions. The company needed a holistic view of information from its supply chain operational systems.

Solution
Flex rolled out the Tableau supply chain analytics solution, first in the U.S. and then globally to production sites and employees. Tableau’s scalability and data source variety, proven over a thousand customers and more than a thousand different supply chains, enabled Flex SMEs and end users to create their own analyses and visualizations.

Results with Tableau
The result was focused collaboration around key Tableau-identified metrics, closing the loop. The solution enabled Flex to reduce the time to visualize and analyze supply chain operational data from seven days to less than five minutes. Within a short time, cutting back several days of inventory freed up $200 million in working capital.
The key to supply chain agility: Data transformation

Ready to get proactive about your supply chain challenges? Start with a data transformation: structure your raw data into a format suitable for model building and discovery. Data transformation is the first step in realizing the full value of your data.

While global disruptions cannot be stopped or predicted, you can still take back some control of your supply chain by making your data a strategic asset and competitive advantage.

Take certain steps to tap into your data

1. Address legacy systems
2. Break down data silos
3. Improve predictive capabilities

Consider that at every point along a supply chain, data sources exist that don’t communicate with one another. From a port receiving containers, to a trucking company moving the containers to a yard or warehouse, to a distribution network receiving goods and delivering them to customers, you can unify your systems to provide a holistic view of your business. Complex legacy systems cannot accommodate today’s demand for real-time insights and collaboration.

Using Tableau, you can address these underlying problems quickly and access the insights you need to solve issues across your supply chain.

ASK Data

- Type a question in common language and instantly get a response right in Tableau. Answers come in the form of automatic data visualizations with no need to manually drag and drop fields or understand the nuances of your data’s structure
- Einstein Discover transforms data into intelligence and predicts customer needs with machine-learning insights
- Data management accesses ready-to-use data across systems; you can unlock and unify data from anywhere

Embedded analytics

- Connect teams, vendors, and partners for streamlined execution—collaborate and align all network partners with real-time insights
Henkel saves millions annually in energy costs and consumption

Challenge
Data visibility and transparency are critical to Henkel’s large-scale global operations. But the company lacked the sophisticated, comprehensive, and centralized analytics solution essential for its overall business success and agility.

Solution
Henkel first implemented Tableau in 2016, following a supplier’s recommendation. Transitioning from the simplistic reporting tools it had traditionally used, the company centralized its data in one hub to increase efficiency and identify cost savings.

Results with Tableau
Tableau enables all of Henkel’s business units to work in concert via accurate data sharing and reporting, saving Henkel €4 million per year in energy costs and cutting energy consumption by 20 percent.
Mitigate disruptions faster with end-to-end data visibility

Today, as supply chain disruptions occur frequently and without warning, many business leaders feel overwhelmed, unsure how to gain the resilience they need to absorb the shocks and rebalance—only to face yet another unpredictable blow. As a result, they keep adding point solutions to an already complex supply chain infrastructure. These may solve one problem, but not all.

With Tableau, you can integrate, analyze, and understand your data in a trusted and secure way. Connect data silos for a single source of truth across all your touchpoints. Identify and solve problems fast with easy access to actionable insights, intelligent recommendations, and data alerts—all in a single platform.

You can:

- Unlock and unify data from anywhere using Tableau Connectors and Data Management
- Understand what’s happening in real time throughout your supply chain by querying ASK Data

With end-to-end visibility throughout the supply chain, you gain the transparency you need to recognize delays and congestion points and take appropriate action quickly with a new degree of control.
Coca-Cola saves millions per year with award-winning digital supply chain

The Coca-Cola Company is an American multinational beverage corporation, best known for its eponymous soft drink.

Challenge
Coca-Cola had significant challenges understanding inventory across its 350 U.S. warehouses and manufacturing facilities. Its sales and operations planning (S&OP) process was very person-dependent; you had to track down the right person to talk to. Metrics were not aligned or shared across the facilities; rather, they were siloed and inconsistent. Data, the lifeblood of S&OP, was not accurate, timely, or standardized.

Solution
To start, the company built a dashboard in Tableau showing the at-risk inventory in each facility, giving clear visibility into how many products were due to expire each week. It used data from inventory on the floor as well as sales history and forecast data. The solution provided the end user with information on products at risk and the likelihood of being able to sell before the expiration date. Facilities could then move products to another location to sell, drop the price, or reduce production.

Results with Tableau
- 99% on-time, in-full delivery rate
- 28% reduction in out-of-stock incidents
- 3.4% reduction in inventory cost
- 1.7% reduction in inventory volume

The Coca-Cola Company is an American multinational beverage corporation, best known for its eponymous soft drink.
Navigate volatility and stabilize costs with no-code AI and ML predictive analytics

Unpredictability is the name of the game in today’s supply chain. Or is it? The data you already have in your siloed systems holds the key to converting the chaos all players are experiencing into a semblance of order you can manage and succeed/win.

Predictive analytics from Tableau determine the likelihood of future outcomes using data mining, statistics, data modeling, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. Put simply, predictive analytics interpret your organization’s historical data to make predictions about the future.

By connecting all your data sources and bringing them together into a holistic view—a single source of truth—Tableau predictive analytics discover patterns in the data to identify upcoming risks and opportunities.

Your data is transformed into intelligence, letting you adapt your forecasts to manage demand effectively and reduce errors impacting your bottom line—and predict fluctuations with confidence.
Share insights easily and securely across your network

It’s a common story among companies managing today’s supply chain: key operational data is locked in back-office legacy systems where front-office teams can’t access it for planning and forecasting. Organizations have little visibility into KPIs along the supply chain and can’t fix or mitigate risks quickly—resulting in fines, lost sales, and ineffective trade promotions with no ROI to justify spend.

The list of challenges goes on, with a common thread running through them: lack of connectivity. But companies that put Tableau supply chain analytics to work gain a competitive advantage through sharing insights that help increase productivity, build stronger relationships, and deliver better customer experiences together with their partners.

Tableau enables you to:

- Unify teams, vendors, and partners with a single source of truth for more streamlined execution
- Make collaboration easier by sharing real-time insights with embedded analytics
- Deliver connected, personalized, transparent, and relevant customer and supplier experiences with Tableau Cloud

By connecting data sources, teams, and partners, Tableau helps you turn the challenges into opportunities to thrive where competitors flounder.
Deliver the goods

With seemingly countless handoffs and friction points to manage along the way, today’s supply chain is imposing but not impossible to navigate successfully—given the right tools.

Leveraging the end-to-end, real-time transparency Tableau analytics provides gives you the edge you need to deliver the goods on time and in full.
Tableau helps people see and understand data. Tableau offers visual analytics with powerful AI, data management, and collaboration. From individuals to organizations of all sizes, customers around the world love using Tableau’s advanced analytics to fuel impactful, data-driven decisions.

Tableau integrates with Salesforce Customer 360—a customer relationship management (CRM) platform that connects the business with a shared view of customer data—giving every department access to the most powerful, comprehensive, and intuitive analytics features embedded directly into workflows. By bringing your customer data to the center of your work, you can grow your relationships with your customers and employees.