



Blume solutions automate the work order and invoicing process, enabling ocean carriers to improve agility and more efficiently manage their shipping networks.

Challenge

A leading ocean carrier was in need of a solution that would seamlessly onboard and support the accelerated growth in its motor carrier network. The ocean carrier also wanted to expand its digital capabilities and automate the processing of hundreds of millions of dollars in annual drayage invoices, as well as the validation of the work performed. Additionally, it needed to eliminate the blind spots in its container supply chain, drastically improve its customer service responsiveness and completely replace slow, manual processes for invoicing and work orders. Finally, the ocean carrier sought out a cloud-based solution that had well-established connections to the rail and motor carrier base, all while keeping costs low.



Solution

In order to solve these major challenges, the ocean carrier decided to implement Blume Logistics and Finance solutions. Blume Logistics assisted the ocean carrier in standardizing the process of motor carrier onboarding and acted as the central connector between the ocean carrier and all its disparate motor carrier partners. Blume Logistics produced a consistent flow of information of real-time shipment visibility back to the ocean carrier and eliminated the blind spots within its container supply chain. With the utilization of the Blume mobile app, which is part of Blume Logistics, truck drivers gained the ability to report event milestones throughout the shipment's journey. This capability gave the ocean carrier granular, real-time tracking of its shipments along with shipment updates, proofs of delivery and related documents in real time.

After implementing Blume Finance, the ocean carrier was able to automatically generate invoices based on the moves captured through Blume Logistics, tying each accessorial charge to a specific move event. These invoices include pre-approved accessorial charges using agreed-upon stored contractual rates which are matched to approved orders to further avoid errors.

Success

With the successful implementation and direct integration of Blume with the ocean carrier's TMS, the ocean carrier gained access to Blume Global's expansive intermodal network, which already included many of the ocean carrier's own network of motor carriers. Blume efficiently onboarded over 1,500 motor carriers and consolidated the ocean carrier's global operations to better manage its entire dray dispatch process. The company also saved 9,500+ working days by automating the process of connecting each motor carrier to their transportation system management (TMS).

With Blume Finance, the automation of processes allowed the ocean carrier to streamline an accounts payable office, which had been performing slow and manual processes, saving money and improving operational efficiency. The Blume logistical capability coupled with the automation of finance processes offer the ocean carrier drastically improved carrier relationships and customer service to its end customers.

Currently, Blume processes over 900,000 annual shipments in North America, with a 99.99% accuracy on work order billing. With Blume Global, ocean carriers gain end-to-end digitization of their operations, a seamless way to connect to their network, and the ability to provide their customers with consistent information.

