10 ways integrated shipping and warehousing streamline global logistics

International shipments often pass among separate freight forwarders, customs brokers, transportation companies, and warehouse operators. And every one of these handoffs creates coordination challenges, visibility gaps, and unnecessary delays.

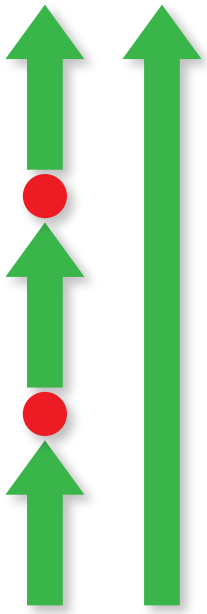
Many companies already rely on Dimerco for international air and ocean freight. Broadening the solution to also include customs, bonded warehousing and product distribution can eliminate handoffs and dramatically reduce cost and complexity.

SEPARATE PROVIDERS VS ONE INTEGRATED PROVIDER FOR SHIPPING & WAREHOUSING

	Separate Providers	Integrated Provider
Contacts	Multiple	One
Execution	Disjointed	Coordinated
Systems	Disparate	Connected
Visibility	Fragmented	End-to-End
Handoffs	Many	Minimal
Accountability	Vague	Clear
Work processes	Duplicative	Streamlined
Reporting	Separate	Consolidated

Here are 10 ways integrating shipping and warehousing with one capable provider can create a more efficient, connected logistics operation.

1 Reduce coordination and complexity



Every handoff between logistics providers creates added work – to transfer paperwork, to enter data into a new system, to coordinate deliveries.

Fewer handoffs between transport and warehousing minimizes delays linked to miscommunication and errors – creating a simpler, more coordinated operation.

2 Create clear accountability

When performance is poor for a process involving several providers, responsibility can be hard to determine. And it's not unusual for providers to place blame on each other.

With one integrated partner overseeing the process, there is a clear owner responsible for troubleshooting the problem and coordinating a successful resolution.

3 Scale into new markets faster, easier

Companies expanding into new markets require new shipping lanes, customs expertise, warehouse space, and trucking services. Adding partners to satisfy each need is time-consuming and difficult.

An integrated 3PL with an established international network can bring these capabilities together, letting you enter new markets quickly and seamlessly – with consistent service.

DIMERCO IN ACTION: Dimerco helped a high-performance computing brand enter India with an integrated shipping, customs, and bonded warehousing solution that improves inbound visibility of component inventory, defers duties to reduce working capital pressure, and supports uninterrupted production.

4 Increase resilience

Supply chain disruptions are harder to manage when coordinating multiple, disconnected providers.

When transportation, customs brokerage, and warehousing are managed together, disruptions are identified earlier and corrective action can be taken with fewer handoffs and delays.

5 Speed time to market

For international shipments, coordinating across different freight forwarders, customs brokers, and warehousing providers can delay customer deliveries.

For urgent air shipments, an integrated provider can clear customs in flight, arrange tarmac-to-warehouse transportation upon touchdown, and perform immediate deconsolidation and truck loading at its warehouse for faster, more predictable customer deliveries.

DIMERCO IN ACTION: For a Fortune 50 consumer electronics company, Dimerco's single-source, Asia-to-US air freight consolidation solution completes final customer delivery within 24 hours after touchdown.

6 Reduce administrative burden

More providers mean more emails, more meetings, more status requests, more contracts, more portals, and more invoices.

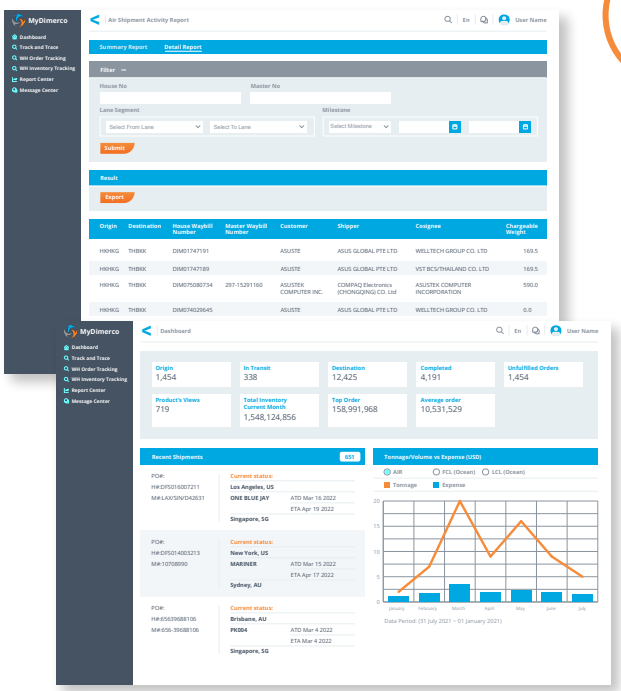
Consolidating services frees up time your team can spend on planning, improving, and keeping customers happy.

7 Improve cash flow

Shipping-only logistics companies often fail to recognize saving opportunities beyond the port.

Bonded and FTZ warehousing may allow importers to defer eligible duties and taxes until goods enter the local market – preserving working capital while inventory remains in storage. This can potentially free up millions in cash for high-value inventory.

DIMERCO IN ACTION: Dimerco's Taiwan FTZ warehouse allows U.S. laptop company, Framework, to purchase and store component parts inventory for up to 20 weeks, **duty and tax free**, before it is sold and shipped out. "For a new company, that cash flow advantage is huge," says Framework Head of Logistics, Lauren Mitchell.



8 Improve end-to-end visibility and control

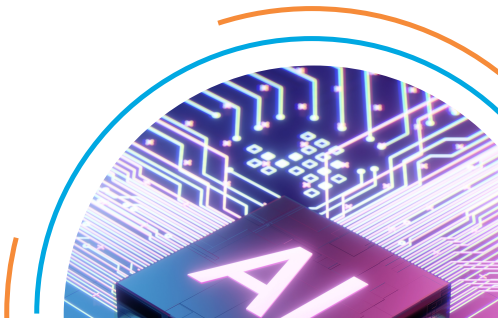
It's hard to get a clear view of your supply chain when shipment and inventory data reside on multiple, disconnected provider systems. A situation that, according to Accenture, inflates logistics costs 3%–5%.

An integrated visibility platform, like MyDimerco, can connect purchase order, transportation and warehouse data, enabling teams to monitor orders, in-transit cargo and stored inventory in real time. Dimerco's POMS can also integrate with customer systems to coordinate suppliers, customers and internal workflows – from order management and approvals through shipment execution.

9 Leverage AI

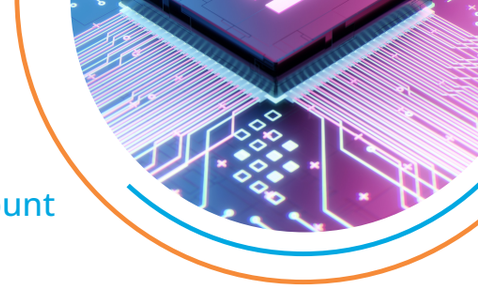
AI produces better insights when it can analyze complete, consistent data. Connecting transportation, customs, and warehousing information makes it easier to identify patterns, predict exceptions, optimize inventory, and evaluate total costs.

McKinsey estimates that embedding AI in distribution



operations can reduce logistics costs 5%–20%.

DIMERCO IN ACTION: Across both shipping and warehouse customers, Dimerco makes widespread use of AI to analyze operational data to identify trends related to costs, ship times, inventory, and other key metrics. Insights are used by the account team to drive improved performance.



10 Optimize your entire supply chain

Individual logistics providers tend to optimize only the portion of the supply chain that they control.

Strategic partners with a broader scope can optimize across transportation modes, regions, and services to reduce total landed costs rather than improving one activity in isolation.

WHO BENEFITS MOST?

Integrated logistics is particularly valuable for companies with:

- Complex, cross-border supply chains
- Operations across multiple countries
- Multiple transportation modes and trade models
- High-value or time-sensitive products
- Significant customs, inventory, or warehousing requirements

Connect your global logistics with Dimerco

Dimerco has traditionally been known for managing air and ocean freight, but warehousing and distribution services are now a vital part of our integrated logistics solution.

With a strong Asia-Pacific warehouse network and capabilities across the U.S. and Europe, Dimerco can design and manage the right warehousing model for your supply chain. And those warehousing services integrate seamlessly with our air, ocean, customs brokerage and supply chain consulting services for a simpler, streamlined logistics operation.

Let's discuss how an integrated approach can reduce the time, cost, and complexity of your logistics operation.

Schedule a call with our Contract Logistics team.

Contact Contract Logistics Team

Sources Cited: Accenture – Supply Chain Control Tower, McKinsey – Harnessing the Power of AI in Distribution Operations

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