Evaluating Freight Forwarders Shipment Tracking Solutions If you're a business owner, you know that your supply chain is the lifeline of your operation. That's why it's so important to ensure that every shipment stays on track, and visibility is key to making that happen. One way to do this is by working with a freight forwarder that has a robust online shipment tracking system and client portal.

Robust Shipment Tracking is More Important Than Ever

Gone are the days of relying on phone calls, emails, and spreadsheets to communicate and get status updates on shipments. Thanks to the Internet and GPS technology, logistics companies can now monitor shipments from start to finish and provide real-time updates to importers. This is more important than ever, as the global supply chain has been disrupted by the pandemic. According to ScienceTimes.com, about 30 ships are delayed daily in Los Angeles and Long Beach due to congestion at the port. This has led to the Biden administration imposing fines on

shipping companies that slow down the

movement of cargo. In 2021, only 40% of ships

arrived on time, compared to 70% a couple of years ago. And so far in 2022, cargo often arrives 4 days late, with some shipments taking more than a week to arrive.

That's where a robust client portal comes in. By providing real-time shipment tracking, it allows logistics and supply chain service providers to keep their clients updated on the status of their shipments. This not only avoids costly issues, but it also improves operational efficiency. Real-time data eliminates the need for time-consuming tasks like phone calls and emails requesting updates, and increased visibility reduces unnecessary dwell time, avoiding demurrage charges and other costs. When shipment data flows constantly, importer operations teams have time to plan and can better serve their clients.

In short, if you want to ensure that your supply chain stays on track and your business runs smoothly, it's essential to work with a freight forwarder that has a robust online shipment tracking system and client portal. This will give you the visibility you need to keep your shipments moving and avoid delays and other issues that can disrupt your business.

Key Features To Look For

When it comes to tracking systems, not all options are equal. If you want a best-in-class solution, you'll want to look for certain features and functionality. Here are some of the most important ones to consider:

- Data-rich dashboards A good tracking system should provide shipping data in a clear, easy-to-digest form. This should include information on shipment status, required action steps, and filtering options that are all easily accessible.
- Data personalization Different importers have different data needs, so it's important to have the ability to customize dashboards to keep your most critical information front and center.
- Specific shipment details A top-notch tracking system should make it easy to access specific details about your shipments, including status, estimated arrival times, container and document numbers, and pdf versions of supporting documents.
- **Real-time analytics -** Analytics can be a powerful tool for decision-making, helping you make informed choices on the fly. Look for a tracking system that provides real-time analytics.
- Accounting statements Online access to accounting data can greatly improve efficiency. Having complete visibility into both operations and accounting helps ensure accuracy, maintain credit accounts, and manage cash flow.
- Weekly Arrivals It's helpful to have a way to view weekly arrivals and track shipments in real-time.
- Accounting Data Access to accounting data is crucial for managing cash flow and ensuring accuracy. Look for a tracking system that provides easy access to this information.



Here Are Some Other Important Features to Look For in a Tracking System:

Clear and Intuitive Interface

A good tracking system should be easy to use, with a clear and intuitive interface that makes it easy to access the information you need.

Direct Messaging to Customer Service

When you have a question or issue, it's helpful to be able to directly message customer service for assistance.

Importer-Centric Design

The best tracking systems are designed with the needs of importers in mind, providing the tools and information you need to effectively track shipments and manage your supply chain.

Customization

As mentioned earlier, different importers have different data needs. Look for a tracking system that allows you to customize the information you see to meet your specific requirements.

Real-Time Data

It's important to have access to real-time data to make informed decisions and respond quickly to any issues that may arise. Look for a tracking system that provides up-to-date information on your shipments.





Are You Looking For a Top-of-the-Line Tracking Solution?

Look no further than DGL's **TrakItPRO.** This powerful tool harnesses all of the benefits of Web 2.0 with a clean, intuitive interface, elegant graphics, and lightning-fast performance.

But what sets **TrakItPRO** apart from the competition? Here are just a few of the benefits you'll enjoy:

- **Primary dashboards** With *TrakItPRO*, you'll have quick access to high-level views of your active shipments, this week's arrivals, messaging inbox, upcoming arrival projections, user watchlist, and invoice listing. You can easily expand any of these dashboards for a more focused view, or click on any shipment for more detailed information.
- Intuitive interface *TrakItPRO* is designed with ease of use in mind, making it easy to access the information you need without feeling overwhelmed.



- **Elegant graphics** *TrakItPRO's* visually appealing design makes it a pleasure to use, and the clean, uncluttered layout helps you stay focused on the task at hand.
- Lightning-fast performance You won't waste any time waiting for *TrakItPRO* to load, as it boasts lightning-fast performance that keeps you moving.



At DGL, We Look to Improve TrakItPRO

At DGL, we're always working to improve **TrakItPRO** and make it the best tracking solution it can be. In 2022 alone, we've made over 30 improvements to the tool. Here are some of the highlights:

- **ETA-ETD email notifications -** We've added email notifications to help you stay informed about the estimated arrival times of your shipments.
- Primary vessel/voyage column on shipment listing - You can now see the primary vessel and voyage information for your shipments right on the shipment listing page.
- US Partner Government Agencies (PGA) customs visibility - We've added visibility into customs information from US Partner Government Agencies, giving you a clearer picture of your shipments.
- Orders Explorer improvements We've made updates to the Orders Explorer to make it even easier to use.
- Order IDs on containers You can now see order IDs on container pages, making it easier to track specific orders.
- Live vessel tracking expansion We've expanded live vessel tracking to give you even more visibility into the movements of your shipments.
- Transit time reporting in analytics You can now see transit time information in the analytics section, helping you better understand shipping times and make informed decisions.
- Order details updates We've made updates to the order details page to make it even easier to access the information you need.

Overall, these improvements are designed to make **TrakItPRO** an even more powerful and user-friendly tracking solution. Whether you're an experienced importer or new to the game, you'll find these updates invaluable for managing your supply chain and keeping your shipments on track.



Looking for more information on TrakItPRO's features?

Check out our blog post on the topic! Here's the link:<u>https://dedola.com/2021/08/trakitpro-new-shipment-tracking-and-client-visibility-platform/</u>.

In this post, you'll find a detailed breakdown of all the features that make **TrakItPRO** such a powerful tracking solution. From its intuitive, elegant design to its lightning-fast performance, **TrakItPRO** has everything you need to effectively manage your supply chain and keep your shipments on track.

So if you're interested in learning more about **TrakItPRO**, don't hesitate to check out our <u>blog post</u>. You'll find all the information you need to make an informed decision about whether this tool is right for you.

Overall, DGL's **TrakItPRO** is the platinum standard in tracking solutions. Whether you're an experienced importer or new to the game, you'll find this tool invaluable for managing your supply chain and ensuring that your shipments stay on track.



Ready to learn more about **TrakItPRO** and all its advanced features? Contact one of our experts today! At DGL, we're dedicated to optimizing our clients' supply chains and are always listening to their needs. With our most recent version of **TrakItPRO**, we've taken being customer-focused to the next level.

Don't miss out on the chance to experience what we call "The Dedola Difference."

Contact us now for a demo of *TrakItPRO* and see for yourself how this powerful tool can help you manage your supply chain and keep your shipments on track. We're confident that *TrakItPRO* will exceed your expectations.

