Business Case for Real-time Visibility

Real-Time Visibility (RTV) has become an increasingly important initiative for supply chain leaders as the technology to make it possible, becomes more readily accessible.

Understanding the business value and positive impacts of RTV solutions are important before making investments in the technology. This guide highlights the value and ROI that can be delivered when implementing a visibility solution.

Your supply chain challenges. Our solution.

Supply chains today are being tasked with becoming more global, complex, and multi-channel while reducing resources, spend, and even carbon footprint. If that's not enough of a challenge, supply chain leaders must deal with external disruptions that necessitate flexibility and agility, such as large carrier bankruptcies, trade disputes, weather events, and global pandemics.

To navigate these challenges, it’s critical to make your supply chain visible and accessible, utilizing technology that can adapt as your supply chain evolves. Being able to have visibility to all your movements, past and present, allows you to prioritize initiatives to improve things for the future.

Our RTV platform, Navisphere Vision, gives visibility to all inventory; at rest at your facilities, or supplier facilities, and in motion, throughout LSP (logistics service provider) networks. To do this, we utilize an industry leading suite of APIs that connect to your ERP and your network of LSPs. Navisphere Vision applies data science algorithms to predict ETAs and calculate risk or disruption within your supply chain.

“By 2023, 50% of global leading enterprises will have invested in real-time transportation visibility solutions.”

3 Reasons Why You Need RTV

The following are some top supply chain challenges that are fueling the growth and investment in RTV platforms.

Key Benefits of RTV

- Increase savings from reducing detention and penalties (OTIF)
- Improve utilization of warehouse and yard resources from real-time ETAs
- Empower customers to view their shipment status vs. relying on customer service
- Reduce safety stock with more reliable delivery performance
- Mitigate and avoid disruptions with integration of external data feeds
- Increase customer service with proactive updates on shipment status
- Turn data into business intelligence to reveal actionable insights

Exponential Growth of Data

There is more data today than ever before. Some statistics suggest that 90% of the world's data was created in the past two years. In addition to the exponential growth of data, almost every segment and node in your supply chain is now producing accessible data. But are you:

- Capturing information in an efficient and effective way?
- Utilizing this data to build predictive models about inventory flowing through your supply chain?

Navisphere Vision delivers the following advantages by managing and extracting value out of your data:

**Business Intelligence:** Our carrier agnostic, RTV platform turns unorganized and disparate streams of data into powerful business intelligence that can be utilized to identify opportunities within the supply chain. It can also be incorporated into other data lakes within your business to impact areas outside logistics, like innovation, value creation, pricing, and more.

**Predictive Analytics:** Navisphere Vision ensures that not only does more information lead to improvements in cost, time, and reliability, but that data can increasingly help predict problems before they arise. For example, you can use Navisphere Vision’s dynamic ETA calculator to:

- Identify when product will be at your facilities to plan receiving labor
- Compare the ETA to the commitment date to predict risk to the inventory in motion
- Compare in transit inventory to your current stock to calculate days of inventory on hand for critical items
Increased Customer Expectations

In today’s world, consumers expect and demand to know how their order is progressing through every stage of the journey, from purchase to delivery. Speed, flexibility, and consistency are not only expectations, but demands from consumers and customers of all sizes. Even internal departments within your company have similar expectations of the supply chain and logistics teams. Navisphere Vision addresses these challenges in the following ways:

**Proactive Alerts:** Be the first to know about shipment status updates, delay notifications, or disruptions, so you can improve service and communication to your customers. Navisphere Vision allows you to configure real-time status alerts based on product, line of business, channel, value, and many other filters that our customers can enable.

**Customer Engagement:** Connecting your customers to a RTV platform allows you to deliver on the expectations discussed above. An example of meeting this challenge is how we deliver real-time status updates to Microsoft, a key customer and partner of Navisphere Vision. When an order is placed on Microsoft’s online store, a tracking application built within their storefront that commits to a promised delivery date, provides regular and timely updates, and sends email notifications if there is a delay or issue, often with a discount or free item. This keeps the consumer in the Microsoft online store instead of sending them to a carrier website, giving them a unified experience.

All of that is done by listening to the REST API milestone service built into Navisphere Vision and leveraging its underlying intelligence and connectivity. Larger customers, who have many facilities and repeat orders, can also be granted access to the application so they can self-serve on their transactions, reducing call and email volume significantly. Additionally, it streamlines their customer service department to address more strategic initiatives.

**Reduce Risk:** Supply chain disruptions can happen at any time, and each one has its own unique impact and characteristics. Knowing the current location of your inventory and where its going in the coming days, is crucial for supply chain leaders to develop effective and timely mitigation strategies. Navisphere Vision integrates with a robust set of APIs that link your supply chain data with external factors like weather and traffic, pairing that with predictive analytics, AI and machine learning to help you proactively track and avoid potential disruptions.
Supply Chain Complexity

The pace of change in the supply chain industry today is unprecedented, and global commerce is more complex than ever before. RTV and the ability to consume, combine, and analyze data from a growing number of integrations is essential to building a responsive, resilient, competitive, and profitable strategy. Customers need RTV platforms to be global, multimodal, multi-channel, and extremely agile as their business grows and changes.

Cloud Capabilities: Navisphere Vision is deployed to the cloud via Microsoft Azure to deliver an even more comprehensive, powerful solution:
- Unlimited scalability
- Premier data security
- Local deployments within your region
- Access to massive ecosystem of tech partners
- Increased application speed

IoT Connectivity: Through Microsoft Azure IoT Central, Navisphere Vision offers IoT integrations to take monitoring and tracking to the next level. Leveraging Intel’s IoT devices, we can measure and monitor physical elements that impact your shipments:

- Shock
- Tilt
- Humidity
- Light
- Temp
- Pressure

With this feature, you see the real-time location of your products, as well as monitor and be alerted to potential spoilage, damages, or tampering of their goods, with the goal of engaging and recovering from the issue immediately.


Ready to learn more about how Navisphere Vision can benefit your supply chain? Visit chrobinson.com/navispherevision for more information and to request a demo.