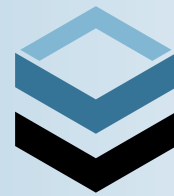


SSI consulting services provide a competitive edge to C-level executives and global supply-chain operation pros:

- Reduce transportation shipping costs
- Cut freight expenses
- Realize supply-chain savings
- Accelerate logistics efficiencies
- Improve distribution network design



**SSI**  
Software Solutions  
Unlimited, Inc.



**New Consulting Services Drive Actionable Insights**  
*Achieve big savings with expert know-how*

*Get the SSI Advantage*



## Freight Savings

SSI offers a range of valuable consulting services, providing immediate and long-term savings that go straight to your bottom line. Each synopsis that follows summarizes a SSI consulting service offering. To learn more, contact SSI.

### Shipping Cost Management

To assist your logistics team in realizing sizable transportation savings, SSI subject-matter experts can study your current-state shipping profile. The resulting situation analysis will pinpoint how your current freight carrier mix, transportation spend, and shipping-service norms compare with industry benchmarks and trending transportation market conditions.

SSI has deep, time-proven experience in freight contract analysis. Through the use of transportation-spend key performance indicators, our proprietary data analysis process yields actionable insights and recommendations for optimizing carrier selection at highly competitive shipping rates. This consulting service enables SSI customers to realize savings ranging from 5 to 20%.

### Freight Contract Negotiation

Smart freight contract negotiation strategies ensure you receive the carrier incentives for which you are entitled, while virtually eliminating wasteful surcharges. The SSI team will help you optimize shipping terms and conditions and shipper-agreement documentation so your freight contracts maximize your operation's savings.



SSI consulting services can also provide insights regarding advantageous freight payment terms, freight contract durations, base freight rate structures and accessorial structures. Upon gathering service requirements, our team can develop RFP packages that suit customer requirements while leveling the freight carrier pricing playing field.

### Transportation Mode Optimization

Optimizing shipping modes based on the total landed cost is a smart step towards freight savings. Multiple factors, including freight minimum charges, accessorial charges and shipment dimensions influence the total landed cost.

SSI can analyze what you ship, and how you ship it, to determine the most appropriate transportation modes so products arrive at their destination when needed. Best of all, our consultants can set up a tracking program to monitor transportation cost savings.

### GRI Impact Analysis

SSI can assist with your understanding of your carrier's general rate increase and how it impacts your shipping costs. We'll work with you to provide the necessary metrics to understand the GRI impact on your shipping cost and bottom line.



# Supply Chain Savings



in-house teams. SSI consultants can help. Our pros can support specific lean project initiatives as well as analyze transportation spend patterns by location, shipping mode and product category.

Further, in collaboration with your logistics team, we help identify relevant trends, patterns and inefficiencies and subsequently provide reports with actionable insights. In turn, your logistics team can implement recommended best practices to improve lean performance and achieve supply-chain savings.



## Vendor Management

SSI consultants can help shippers design and implement routing guides to streamline operations, reduce costs, and enhance trade-partner relationships.

Managing outbound freight expense is often a focus of logistics pros. SSI complements your in-house expertise by providing meaningful insights and strategies to reduce inbound freight costs. Our consulting team will uncover opportunities to increase efficiencies, which not only decrease inbound shipping expenses but also reduce out-of-stock issues. As such, inbound process improvements create synergies which enhance outbound efficiencies, resulting in a notable cumulative decrease in operating expenses.

As new vendor policies and practices are developed and enacted, and new carrier agreements are finalized, SSI can help shippers manage vendor compliance through reporting tools and methods that provide visibility and metrics to reduce lead-time variability in the supply chain.

## Logistics Project Tracking

Logistics and transportation teams are often tasked with implementing projects to increase supply-chain efficiencies while reducing transportation costs to save money. Unfortunately, oversight and tracking the logistics initiatives can be a challenge for under-resourced,

## DIM Factor Mitigation

The impact of dimensional weight (DIM) pricing can dramatically affect your inbound and outbound shipping expenses. Dimensional weight is calculated when the size, or volume, of a package is used to determine the weight at which it is priced. The length, width and height of the box are multiplied together and divided by a dimensional factor. The calculated dimensional weight is then compared to the actual weight of the package, and the higher of the two is used to determine the shipment's base rate.

Since fuel surcharges are calculated as a percentage of the base rate, your charges and fees may be further inflated by this common DIM-factor pricing practice. Shippers who successfully optimize packaging can expect to pay significantly less than those who do not do so. SSI can help you review and update best-practice packaging processes.

## Long Term Optimization

### Distribution Network Design Improvements

Are a dozen distribution centers ideal for your business, or could you achieve savings with only half that many? Where is the best location for your next distribution center? SSI consultants can help clients answer product distribution questions such as these.

In addition, we find many well-intentioned distribution networks become fragmented as businesses grow and needs change over time. Our expert team can perform a situation analysis with proprietary tools and then analyze alternative scenarios to identify opportunities for network efficiencies and cost savings.

Further, we can recommend carrier service improvements, simple routing guides and freight consolidation opportunities to help you optimize regional, national or global distribution network performance.



### FastTrack Transportation Consulting

Put our transportation experts on speed dial. SSI can help you establish an ongoing agreement so you may receive quick consultation, without having to process a new PO for every issue addressed and resolved.

By receiving ongoing transportation consulting services from our industry experts, you can save thousands of dollars, year after year, by readily fine-tuning and implementing freight optimization initiatives. Further, your freight and supply-chain logistics teams and finance leadership can more accurately budget, forecast and plan based upon your own data as well as industry benchmarks.

To learn more about establishing a long-term transportation consulting agreement, contact SSI.

SSI offers a range of valuable consulting services, providing immediate and long-term savings that go straight to your bottom line.



Start maximizing  
your savings.  
Connect with  
SSI today.

9595 SW Gemini Drive  
Beaverton, OR 97008-7120  
(971) 249-5400  
ssui.com

