



Solutions for Your Specific Needs

It's no surprise to anyone that the current market is unpredictable at best.

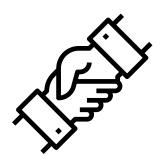
Still recovering from a global pandemic and with the addition of international turmoil, the future of the industry remains rocky. However, there are still options for getting the most out of your supply chain, and supply chain optimization comes into play. Optimized inventory opens doors for giving your customers the best service possible, including delivering on time and offering the best prices. As you seek to leverage your supply chain with an optimized inventory, it's essential to consider managing lead time, partner demand, and supplier relationships.





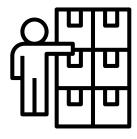
## **Lead Time Management**

The first step in getting the most out of your supply chain is to understand lead time. Knowing how long it will take for a product to arrive after an order placement empowers you to make the right choices about when and how much of a product to order. Many things may lead to longer lead times. Issues with transportation and product delays are just the tip of the iceberg. Preparing for longer lead times is a crucial step in optimizing inventory.



## **Partner Demand Management**

The process of partner demand management is multifaceted. It involves understanding what the customers need and matching that to what your supply chain is capable of. When this is done correctly, supply meets demand and helps prevent disruptions. Meeting partner demand requires flexibility, matching supply to demand, and forecasting demand. Honing these skills in your supply chain allows you to anticipate a surge in demand and remain prepared when demand lulls. Ultimately, these skills empower you to meet the needs and expectations of your customers despite the everchanging nature of the industry.



## **Supplier Relationships**

A final tip in achieving inventory optimization is to nurture supplier relationships. Beyond searching for lower prices, choosing suppliers who hold similar values is helpful in maintaining a solid supply chain. Work with suppliers who value flexibility, authenticity, and transparency. It's also helpful to consider experience. Has the supplier excelled in business for many years? Do they hold a strong reputation for their performance?