Transportation professionals know from experience that executing a bid with service providers can be tedious and time consuming. More importantly, when the bid is managed incorrectly, the process can produce negative results that impact both cost and service. Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud allows you to optimize your rate management processes by providing a single application that integrates bid-to-plan-to-payment needs and provides rate maintenance capabilities. Integrated with Oracle Transportation Management Cloud, Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud offers a streamlined and flexible solution for soliciting, loading, and analyzing logistics service provider rates and capacity. It enables and enhances the steps required to complete a bid that include: generating lanes and related demand, collection and analysis of quotes, awarding, and creation of operational rates. Additionally, Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud provides a simple and efficient workflow to load and edit rates when updates are required.

**The Transportation Procurement Lifecycle**

- **Prepare For Bid**
  - Utilize Oracle Transportation Management shipment history to create lanes and volume requirements

- **Generate Rates**
  - Single transportation platform results in streamlined creation of rates for use in operational planning

- **Create Bid**
  - Determine project structure and format
  - Configure project and notify service providers

- **Award Bid**
  - Determine optimal service provider mix and allocation
  - Notify service providers of award

- **Execute Bid**
  - Collect bids, capacity, and other required data from service providers
  - Monitor project

- **Analyze Bid**
  - Configure business rules and constraints for awarding
  - Execute what if optimization scenarios to determine impact on transportation spend

Figure 1. Transportation Sourcing streamlines the carrier bid process

**Key Features**

- Manages negotiations with logistics service providers on rates, accessorials, and equipment requirements
- Utilizes Oracle Transportation Management’s historic shipment and lane data to create a bid project
- Intelligently aggregates shipment data into lane, volume, and benchmark cost information
- Multiple rounds, on-line and off-line bidding, bid packages, and other parameters
- Flexible lane and bid attribute configurations to ensure logistics service providers have the information needed to bid effectively
- “What If” scenario analysis functions that determine spend projections and optimal resource allocation
- Simplified and streamlined activation of awarded bids
**KEY BENEFITS**

- Decrease the procurement life cycle
- Reduce transportation costs by optimizing bid execution and service provider negotiation
- Strategically assess the financial impact of proposed rate changes before they are committed
- Provide greater spend visibility
- Improve logistics service provider relationships
- React quickly to link and node changes in supply chain
- Centralize and simplify rate data
- Increase supply chain reliability
- Increase customer service levels

**RELATED PRODUCTS**

Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud Service is a key component of Oracle Transportation Management Cloud and the Oracle suite of Logistics Cloud solutions.

Oracle Transportation Management Cloud was built to provide a single, complete solution to manage all aspects of transportation and logistics. The following options are also available with Oracle Transportation Management Cloud:

- Forwarding and Brokerage Operations Cloud
- Freight Payment, Billing, and Claims Cloud
- Transportation Intelligence Cloud
- Logistics Inventory Visibility Cloud
- Transportation Cooperative Routing Cloud
- Transportation Operational Planning Cloud
- Transportation Sourcing Cloud

Other Related Products:

- Oracle Global Trade Management Cloud

A sourcing project begins with an effort to collect and analyze the lanes required to support a bid. This often tedious process is streamlined with Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud by utilizing historic shipment data directly from Oracle Transportation Management Cloud. Shipment data can be automatically extracted, previewed and aggregated to support optimal lane and demand definition, saving you the painstaking task of data collection and data cleansing.

Next, when defining the content, it is important to have the flexibility to create the bid according to your requirements. Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud provides this flexibility by allowing users to determine what attributes service providers see and bid on for each lane. Users can also define how bids are collected, by including attributes such as capacity, accessorials or lane bundles.

Once bids are collected, the analysis begins. Being able to determine optimal service provider allocation is vital to your future transportation spend. Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud provides you with the ability to execute ‘what if’ scenarios based on business rules such as capacity, service history, scorecard values, volume and spend rules, and more. Executing scenarios provides you with the facts needed to carry out unbiased service provider negotiations, and offers visibility into cost savings opportunities.

Once awards have been determined, turning the selected bids into executable rates is greatly simplified thanks to Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud and Oracle Transportation Management Cloud being part of the same platform. This unique approach expedites the rate creation process so new rates can be made effective much earlier than in a manual or “black box” sourcing environment, and without major support from IT organization.

![Figure 2. Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud users define lane and bid attributes on the Carrier Response Template, which is used by service providers to submit bids.](image-url)
• Oracle Customs Management Cloud
• Oracle Trade Compliance Cloud
• Oracle Global Trade Intelligence Cloud

Figure 3. Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud seamlessly turns awarded bids into operational rates, reducing the rate procurement life cycle.

Rate Maintenance Simplified
Even after efficient bid processes are put into place, transportation professionals know that new rates, as well as rate updates, are often required outside of defined contract periods. As rate and accessorial updates are a necessary part of managing dynamic supply chains, Oracle Transportation Sourcing Cloud also provides a means to better manage such change. Rate maintenance helps to ensure operations are utilizing the right carrier, and the right rate, at the right time, for the right shipment.

Figure 4. Rate maintenance incorporates a review and approval workflow process prior to new rates becoming active.

Sourcing’s Key Role in Transportation Management
Transportation rate procurement is an integral part of your logistics operation as negotiations impact service provider relationships and capacity availability. Rates set the baseline for operational carrier and route selection decisions. Spend visibility is required
to ensure cost containment.

Links and nodes in your supply chain are constantly changing and carrier, mode and routing changes are often required due to environmental factors. Establishing a standardized, repeatable, and automated approach to sourcing and rate management, that appeals to both transportation buyer and seller, is vital to efficiently managing logistics operations.