

Product Information

Descartes Route Planner™



Optimizing Where the “Rubber Meets the Road”

Effectively managing delivery routes involves two distinct phases. First, a plan must be built to efficiently deploy vehicles while satisfying customer demands. Then, it must be fine-tuned to reflect real-world changes. With the right tool, planning for such a fluid environment becomes a powerful way to serve customers and keep a sharp eye on the bottom line.

A true enterprise-wide route planning solution, Descartes Route Planner is part of the Descartes Routing, Mobile & Telematics Suite and incrementally builds shipment schedules and route plans. As each new order is received, the schedule is regenerated in real time to reallocate resources to optimize operating efficiencies, deliver priority service to the most profitable accounts and routes, and maintain overall customer service objectives. Descartes Route Planner can satisfy batch, wave or incremental operational requirements.

Always On

Descartes Route Planner is geared towards organizations that are looking for a routing solution that is tightly integrated into enterprise processes and that have customers and orders that change right up to and beyond the time of dispatch.

A recognized innovator in delivery management, Descartes has offered market-proven routing and scheduling solutions for over 20 years. With extensive logistics expertise and a leadership tradition in wireless and messaging, Descartes has deployed advanced delivery applications at over 700 companies.

Descartes’ customers have enjoyed such benefits as a 10% to 20% increase in completed daily deliveries, a 10% drop in fuel consumption, and a 20% improvement in vehicle utilization.

Descartes Route Planner helps improve truck utilization while reducing operating costs.



Descartes Route Planner is a web-based application that helps improve operational efficiency through better route selection. It is designed to easily integrate with existing order management or transportation planning systems. It helps companies reduce operating costs, which can improve dispatch to driver ratios, total route distances and average miles between stops.

Summary

Benefits

Descartes Route Planner helps:

- Reduce operating costs by:
 - Coordinating users in a centrally maintained server
 - Decreasing expediting costs and overtime charges
 - Enhancing fleet capacity utilization
 - Minimizing distance traveled, stop duration, and fuel usage
 - Reducing fleet size necessary to service orders
- Enhance customer service and retention by:
 - Facilitating the ability to meet contractual performance goals
 - Improving on-time performance rates
 - Offering more accurate arrival and departure times

Features

Adaptive Planning. Reanalyzes and reoptimizes plans as customer requirements, routes, and orders change. Determines best resources (truck, driver, and route) to use, and order sequence. Includes optimization criteria such as lowest cost, shortest route and shortest distance between stops. Also considers such factors as the cost per stop, route, and customer. Flexibly models company specific business rules and transportation practices.

Distributed Architecture. Supports multi-site, multi-user scenarios. Facilitates centralized control and management, as well as real-time collaborative decision support so transportation assets can be shared across territorial and functional boundaries. Simplifies integration and maintenances.

Fleet-wide Visibility. Offers multiple perspectives of orders, jobs, and routes to facilitate management and changes to route plans. Dynamically linked map and schedule text views provide information on capacity usage, time to service each stop, alternative available resources, and route profitability.

Geographic Intelligence. Employs an extensive digital road network to support street-level optimization. Provides more accurate drive time calculations than traditional point-to-point projections. Yields precise arrival estimates, route assignments, and performance metrics. Automates translation of addresses into precise longitude and latitude locations.