

ROBERT C. YERKES

Columbus, OH 43207
rcyerkes@outlook.com

[215.410.8500](tel:215.410.8500)
www.linkedin.com/in/robert-yerkes

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS LEADER

Expert at Surpassing Service Expectations

Driven professional skilled at coordinating deliveries via multiple carriers to meet customer's expectations. Expert problem solver achieving prompt resolution of delivery issues. Detail-oriented when analyzing important key performance indicators. Goal-oriented leader with exceptional communication skills.

- Continuous Improvement
- Financial Analysis & Planning

- Logistics & Transportation
- Management

- Strategic & Operational Planning
- Customer Service

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ASCENA RETAIL GROUP, INC., Pataskala, OH

2010 - 2019

Senior Transportation Manager (2018 – 2019)

Transportation Manager (2013 – 2018)

Managed daily transportation operations to 4,600+ retail stores in the US, Canada & Puerto Rico. Oversaw all non-merchandise transportation for Ascena Retail Group. Completed multiple analyses for pool / parcel distribution retail network.

- Worked with 3rd-party TMS companies, consolidating inbound freight and routing non-merchandise freight.
- Connected with 3rd-party freight auditors, creating reporting for tracking purposes and cost analysis.
- Analyzed weekly / monthly KPIs, ensuring network was running at optimal level.
- Worked with operations team to start second store replenishment facility in California, supporting restocking of stores in the western half of the US.
- Achieved yearly savings of \$700M by completing key delivery carrier transitions in Canada.
- Implemented tracking visibility software for parcel store deliveries, supporting Inventory Control with job functions.
- Attended transportation / logistics conferences, staying updated with industry trends.
- Completed onsite audits for all store delivery / truckload / intermodal carriers and 3PL partners, ensuring partners met same standards as parent company, focusing on facility security, OSHA compliance, procedures, and employee standards.
- Assisted in transitioning acquired companies (Charming Shoppes, Inc./Maurices/Ann, Inc.) into Ascena facilities, moving acquired brands from current locations into Ascena facilities by negotiating truckload rates and planning schedule of shifting freight to new facilities.
- Streamlined non-merchandise processes over multiple brands for cost / process efficiencies, assisting internal teams.
- Educated internal and external partners on parcel shipping practices by creating tools to save \$150k+ in costs, including mailrooms, marketing teams, and vendors.

Assistant Transportation Manager (formerly Charming Shoppes, Inc.), Bensalem, PA (2010 – 2013)

Directed daily transportation operations to 2,000+ retail stores. Completed bids for pool carriers for retail network. Negotiated rates with truckload carriers.

- Forecasted inbound trailers to multiple distribution centers, working with 3PL companies on both coasts, calculating which freight needed to go to each facility.
- Created and updated monthly dashboards, maintaining accurate tracking of inbound and outbound expenses.
- Reviewed current transportation network regularly for efficiencies.
- Created and implemented holiday scheduling, allowing Store Operations to advise store personnel when they would receive deliveries, providing stores to schedule the appropriate number of employees.
- Saved over \$500M by completing rate analysis comparisons for multiple projects.
- Gathered data to track transportation trends, utilized to know when to put more freight on the rail due to driver / truck shortages.
- Compared actual expenses to budget, providing focused explanations of variances.
- Realized savings on cost and reduced carbon footprint by implementing intermodal start up versus over-the-road truck for moving freight.

URBAN OUTFITTERS, INC., Philadelphia, PA

2007 - 2010

Retail Transportation Supervisor

Spearheaded merchandise deliveries for 300+ stores. Oversaw routing for new store openings and schedules. Supervised furniture delivery program for Anthropologie, Urban Outfitters, and Terrain brands. Supervised team of 6 employees.

URBAN OUTFITTERS, INC. (Continued)

- Developed and reevaluated transportation processes for efficiencies, analyzing network and providing insights on improvements by changing carriers or ineffective procedures.
- Managed international shipments to Europe via ocean and air transportation, efficiently coordinating and scheduling shipments, resulting in fewer shipments overall.
- Coordinated merchandise shipments to Canadian retail stores, ensuring freight arrived on-time and without incident.
- Oversaw processes of chargebacks, claims, and freight invoicing, resulting in better carrier compliance and service.
- Completed monthly budget variance analysis, verifying network was running at optimum level.
- Saved \$250M+ by gathering data to complete cost analyses for transportation studies.
- Contacted carriers and vendors for industry trends by staying on top of industry news and potential issues impacting customer service.

DESTINATION MATERNITY CORPORATION (formerly Motherswork, Inc.), Philadelphia, PA

2006 - 2007

Quality Assurance Supervisor

Managed team of 25 people on 2 shifts, inspecting inbound merchandise shipments to uphold quality standards.

- Communicated daily to merchant teams, vendors, and management, advising when certain style would arrive and guaranteeing pulling of style with defects.
- Performed in-depth quality inspections by using AQL scale once purchase order was deemed defective.
- Worked with various departments, standardizing product flow, which saved the company ~\$50k.
- Developed new quality procedures, ensuring best possible product were available.

NORTHTEC LLC. (subsidiary of The Estée Lauder Companies, Inc.), Bristol, PA

2004 – 2006

Logistics Shipping Supervisor

Coordinated employee assignments to load multiple outbound trailers as carriers arrived onsite.

- Checked daily report for shipment status, ensuring scheduling of necessary amount of workers for loading trailers.
- Submitted purchase orders to department stores for routing.
- Composited international shipments daily, verifying timely pick up.
- Verified shipments were correct on an as-needed basis, enabling faster loading of orders, thus getting drivers in and out quicker than before.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA), Production Operational Management, Drexel University Philadelphia, PA

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Strategies for Designing an Efficient Intermodal Freight Network, University of Denver, 2012

AWARDS

The Summit Award for Outstanding Achievement, Ascena Retail Group, 2015

COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Operating Systems: Windows, Apple OS

Software: Microsoft Office Applications

LOGISTICS PROGRAMS

PCSTrac

Bearware