# Software Advice BuyerView: TMS Software Report

Insight into today's software buyer



From 2012 to 2014, we spoke with thousands of small businesses considering a TMS purchase. We tapped into a subset of the data to determine two things:

- What features are prospective TMS buyers looking for in a new system?
- What methods are these buyers currently using that they hope to replace?



# **Top-Requested TMS Software Features**



The majority of prospective buyers said they needed to either plan and track the routes for product shipments or track actual shipments themselves.

# **Prospective Buyers' Current Methods**



24 percent of buyers were still using "manual methods." This often meant that they were still using pen and paper to manage their transportation operations.

# Prospective Buyers' Timeframe for Implementation



68 percent of buyers expressed a desire to implement a new TMS system within the next three months or less.

#### **Top Reasons for Software Purchase**



37 percent of buyers—the largest single group—said they wanted more functionality than was offered by the current methods they were using.

# **Integration Preference**



Seventy-eight percent of the prospective buyers we spoke to were interested in a "best-of-breed" solution, or a single application for TMS purposes only.

#### **Deployment Preference**



82 percent of buyers had yet to decide on a deployment mode: 14 percent preferred a Web-based solution, while 4 percent wanted an on-premise system.

# **Demographics: Prospective Buyers by Industry**



Fifty three percent of the buyers we spoke with were from third party logistics (3PL) companies, making it the single largest group of buyers we sampled.

# Demographics: Prospective Buyer Size by Annual Revenue



The vast majority (74 percent) of buyers we sampled were from companies with \$25 million or less in annual revenue.

Demographics: Buyer Size by Number of Employees



77 percent of buyers in our sample were from organizations with 100 employees or fewer.

## Demographics: Prospective Buyers by Job Title



The most common job title for buyers seeking new TMS software was either "owner," "president," "vice president" or "CEO."

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