

### International Shipments: Finding a Better Way to Navigate Uncertainty at the Ports

#### Challenge

West Coast port congestions and slowdowns were causing numerous issues with product destined for the Asian market of a quick-service Restaurant Company. A lack of container and chassis availability and long waits for container loading were disrupting the supply chain and increasing costs to the Restaurant Company. The containers also held frozen product which added complexity and product integrity concerns. With no timeline for resolution of the port's labor issue, an alternative was needed to mitigate disruptions and manage costs.



#### Solution

As a supply chain partner, Armada recognized there was a viable solution to avoid these additional logistics costs and disruptions. Already managing the over the road transportation of the products to the West Coast port, Armada suggested diverting the product to a transload facility close to the port to temporarily store the product while waiting for container availability. Once containers could be secured, the product was then loaded for shipment to Asia.

Armada reached out to its network of solutions providers to find a suitable partner with available space and capabilities to provide this service. Recognizing that costs would vary due to factors associated with service and distance, selecting the right partner was critical. Within just a few days, Armada identified a partner and negotiated a price that resulted in a lower cost to serve for the Restaurant Company's Asian market customers and avoided the headaches of the supply chain disruptions.

## Results

Armada delivered a solution for the Restaurant Company that ultimately avoided the supply chain disruptions and the high costs resulting from the port slowdown in addition to maintaining product integrity. Thousands of dollars in detention charges were eliminated and the solution enabled the over the road carrier to experience improved asset utilization while still remaining on the lane. Utilization of the freezer facility also improved product quality and integrity.

Armada proved to be an advocate for the Restaurant Company's supply chain by designing and executing a solution within the dynamic parameters of the situation to the benefit of all stakeholders. This also provides a long-term contingency plan that can be quickly deployed, should this situation arise in the future.

## About Armada

*Armada creates innovative, fully integrated supply chain solutions that deliver competitive advantages and improve business performance for our clients.*

## Armada Solutions

**Supply Chain Planning**  
**Supply Chain Technology**  
**Warehouse Solutions**  
**Transportation Solutions**  
**Global Logistics**

**We believe** that there's a better way to manage our clients' supply chains. A better way rooted in simplicity, transparency and extraordinary service to our clients.

**We are changing** the way supply chains are managed — now and for the future — through innovation and collaboration with our clients.

**We provide** logistic solutions that create smaller, smarter and more agile supply chains that adjust to our clients' evolving marketplace demands.

## Armada

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