

CONTAINER SHIPPING RELIABILITY

What Does It Mean For Shippers?

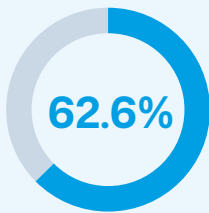
Schedule reliability is not just about whether a vessel arrives on time. It is about how well your entire supply chain absorbs uncertainty and keeps your business moving.

THE LATEST DATE

62.6%

Global liner schedule reliability in June 2026
+1.9% vs. May

Source: Sea-Intelligence (as reported by Shipping Gazette)



While this figure is significantly better than the disruption seen in previous years, more than one third of vessels are still not arriving on time.

“For shippers, the real question isn’t just “Can the vessel arrive on time?” but
“How much uncertainty remains - and how can we manage it?””

01 Why Do Different Sources Show Different Reliability Figures?



Organizations such as Sea-Intelligence and Xeneta may use different datasets, coverage, reporting periods and definitions of “on time”. For example, one may consider a vessel on time if it arrives within a certain time window, while another may apply a stricter standard.



Therefore, schedule reliability figures are best viewed as indicators of market trends rather than absolute measures of performance.

02 Which Trade Lanes Are More Reliable?

Reliability varies significantly across different trade lanes.

Asia-Europe

Affected by port congestion, routing changes and checkpoint disruptions.

Reliability - low to moderate

Transpacific

Influenced by port congestion, capacity adjustments and vessel deployment.

Reliability - moderate

Intra-Asia

Generally higher reliability with shorter transit times and more frequent services.

Reliability - high

Key Disruptors

- Port congestion
- Weather conditions
- Vessel bunching
- Blank sailings
- Transshipment requirements
- Maritime checkpoint disruptions

03 What Does a Delay Mean for Shippers?

A vessel delay rarely affects only the vessel. It can trigger a chain of consequences across the entire supply chain.



Vessel Delay



Cargo Arrival Delay



Inventory Impact



Production / Warehouse Disruption



Customer Delivery Impact

The Real Impact



Raw materials may arrive late, affecting production schedules.



Unexpected arrivals can increase warehouse and trucking pressure.



Time-sensitive shipments may miss delivery commitments.

Schedule reliability is ultimately a supply chain issue, not simply a shipping issue.

04 How Can Shippers Manage Schedule Uncertainty?

While no one can eliminate delays, businesses can take practical steps to reduce their exposure and stay in control.

Build Realistic Schedule Buffers

- ✓ Treat transit time as a range, not a fixed delivery date.
- ✓ Allow extra time for unexpected disruptions.



Evaluate Multiple Sailing Options

- ✓ Compare different carriers, services and routes.
- ✓ Consider direct vs. transshipment or alternative gateways.



Plan Critical Shipments Earlier

- ✓ For key materials or time-sensitive cargo, earlier booking provides more options and flexibility.



Consider Alternative Transport Solutions

- ✓ Explore sea-air, sea-rail or other multimodal options when ocean services cannot meet your timeline.



Work with a Proactive Logistics Partner

- ✓ Get support in monitoring market changes.
- ✓ Identify risks early and evaluate alternatives when plans are disrupted.



BERKMAN EXPERTISE: TURNING UNCERTAINTY INTO ACTION



MONITOR

We track vessel performance, port conditions and market developments in real time.



ANALYZE

We assess the impact on your shipments, capacity and schedules.



ADVISE

We recommend the best routing, service and booking strategies.



EXECUTE

We coordinate across our network to keep your supply chain moving.



KEEP YOU INFORMED

We provide timely updates and proactive alerts so you can make confident decisions.



Local expertise. Global network. Customer focus.
We help you navigate uncertainty and turn disruption into business continuity.



From Schedule Reliability to Supply Chain Resilience

Schedule reliability means predictability, helping businesses plan better and reduce disruption risks.

Reliable logistics keeps your business moving, even when conditions change.





FROM OPERATIONS TO PROCUREMENT: A 23 YEARS JOURNEY OF TRUST AND TRANSFORMATION

LEADING STAFF

AEL-Berkman Forwarding
Karen Xin
Procurement Supervisor

In the summer of 2003, a fresh graduate walked into AEL-Berkman Forwarding (Shanghai) Ltd. as a Junior Operations Assistant. With little experience but a strong willingness to learn, this first step marked the beginning of a 23-year journey of growth, transformation, and commitment.

EVERY ROLE
PREPARES YOU
FOR THE NEXT

Building a Foundation in Operations

For the first decade of my career, operations was my classroom. From checking bills of lading and tracking vessel schedules to coordinating with carriers and customs brokers, I learned that every detail matters in logistics.

As I gained experience, I took responsibility for multiple trade lanes, including Europe, the Mediterranean, Southeast Asia, North America, and Australia. These years shaped my ability to solve problems, communicate effectively, and understand that every successful shipment is built on trust and teamwork.

A New Chapter in Procurement

In 2013, I stepped into the Procurement Department and began a new challenge. Moving from daily operations to carrier negotiations, market analysis, and supplier management required me to learn from the beginning again.

In 2015, my responsibilities expanded into air freight procurement, allowing me to develop a broader understanding of the logistics industry across different transportation modes. My operations background has always been a valuable advantage, helping me create procurement solutions that are not only cost-effective but also practical and reliable.

Through continuous learning and experience, I developed my skills in strategic sourcing, risk management, and supplier evaluation. In 2017, I was honored to be promoted to Procurement Supervisor.

Growing Together

Over these 23 years, AEL-Berkman has become more than just a workplace—it has become a place where I have grown together with my colleagues. I have witnessed the company's transformation from traditional processes to digital solutions, while our commitment to excellence and customer service has remained unchanged.

Looking back, the journey from a young operations assistant to a procurement leader has been shaped by every role, every challenge, and every opportunity. The road ahead will continue to bring new markets, new technologies, and new challenges. My commitment remains the same: to keep learning, collaborate openly, and create lasting value for our clients, our colleagues, and AEL-Berkman.

Growth is not a single leap—it is the accumulation of every role we take on, every challenge we overcome, and every partnership we build along the way.

YOUR **LOGISTICS** PARTNER