

DESPATCH

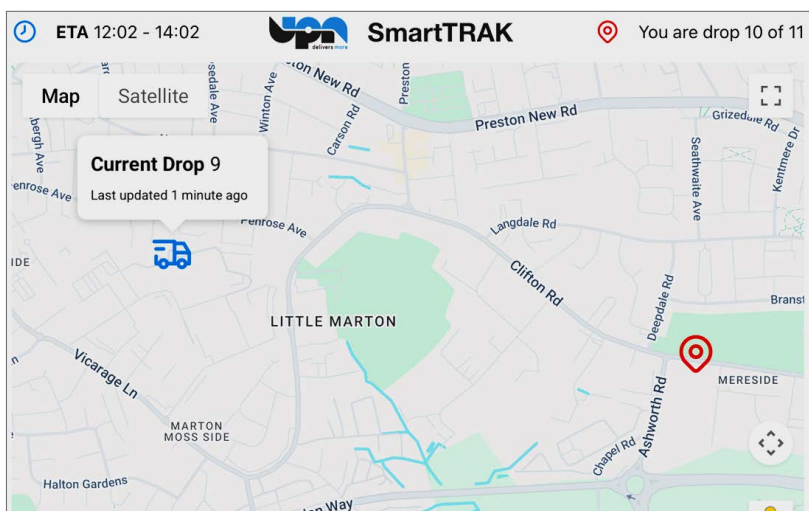
Issue 19

Volume 3



Introduce "SmartTRAK"

A BESPOKE NEW CUTTING EDGE PALLET FREIGHT TRACKING TOOL



United Pallet Network (UPN) announces the launch of SmartTRAK, its bespoke new cutting-edge pallet freight tracking tool which enables users to follow their delivery second by second in real time.

SmartTRAK integrates advanced live tracking, dynamic planning tools, and real-time performance monitoring to ensure that all UPN shipments are managed with absolute precision at every stage of their journey.

Inside DESPATCH

- Six New Members
- New PM Service
- Green Revolution
- Stewarding Exposure
- Charity Support
- South West Strengthens
- Sector Spotlight

UPN clients can now follow their pallet freight delivery second by second via an interactive map which gives clear, real time visualisation, delivery status, and drop number. They will benefit from complete control every step of the way by knowing precisely when each shipment will arrive, reducing guesswork and enabling seamless coordination.

"The introduction of SmartTRAK confirms UPN's ongoing commitment to service excellence and evolution of industry standards," said UPN Managing Director – David Brown.

At the core of SmartTRAK is an advanced, bespoke algorithm that generates automatic 2-hour ETA windows during planning. These ETAs are continuously refined in real-time using vehicle location updates, current traffic conditions, time required for each delivery, and scheduled driver breaks.

"With the launch of SmartTRAK, UPN service users enjoy complete control over their logistics, with

accurate, real-time insights at their fingertips," commented Joel Miller, UPN's Director of Information Technology.

UPN leverages state-of-the-art technology with SmartTRAK, to provide significant advantages to clients. By using the latest technology, the SmartTRAK system:

- Continuously updates delivery ETAs based on real-time driver progress and location.
- Highlights potential issues such as early or late arrivals with intuitive colour-coded alerts.
- Displays live tracking on an interactive map, ensuring complete visibility of every shipment.

SmartTRAK is an innovative palletised freight tracking system, providing benefits that empower businesses with unparalleled control over their logistics operations.



INSIDE - UPN UK POSTCODE MAP



SECTOR SPOTLIGHT

MotorTransport

Support use of low carbon fuels

Logistics UK is calling for the UK government to take urgent action to support the use of low carbon fuels as a way to accelerate the UK's decarbonisation strategy.

The call follows the announcement last week by Future of Roads Minister Lilian Greenwood of the roll out of 54 new charging and hydrogen refuelling hubs for zero emission HGVs. Logistics UK welcomed the initiative but called on the government to also get behind low carbon fuels to help hauliers cut their emissions quickly.

Michelle Gardner, Logistics UK deputy director of policy, said: "Logistics UK members are fully committed to decarbonising and many are already trialling or have adopted alternative fuels and technologies to help achieve net zero. The industry is technology neutral in its approach and will adopt any solution that is operationally and commercially viable. However, significant barriers remain on the journey to net zero for all transport modes, and it must be recognised that it will take considerable time for zero emission technologies to be fully adopted and integrated into the logistics system."

<https://motortransport.co.uk/industry-news/invest-in-low-carbon-fuels-to-accelerate-decarbonisation-today-logistics-uk-tells-government/25727.article>



The Association of Pallet Networks

Pallet Networks See Steady Growth

2024 saw strong but controlled growth for UK Pallet Networks, across all pallet sizes and services. The UK's eight Pallet Networks delivered a total of 29.3 million pallets throughout the year, 3.2% up on 2023.

APN Chairman Paul Saunders says, "Steady manageable growth is exactly what our Members need as this shows that the UK's freight owners have fully recovered both in economic terms and in predictability of their order books from the fluctuations of COVID. The intense inflationary pressures which have threatened to depress the wider market more recently have increased costs for networks and customers, but have not significantly suppressed demand."

Other key figures for 2024 include:

- Service levels remain consistently high with 96% intact, in full and on-time deliveries.
- 2024 growth in next day volumes of 3.0% for full pallets, 3.1% half pallets, and 3.7% for quarter pallets.
- Full pallets accounted for 49% of volume, Half pallets 29%, and 22% Quarter pallets.
- Next Day volumes accounted for 62% with Economy 38%, which is a slight shift away from Economy Services and towards Premium.
- Consignment numbers grew by almost 3% in 2024, consolidated by 4.3% growth in the Quarter Four. The average number of pallets per consignment remained at 1.43.
- Average pallet weight rose slightly to 370kg, bucking a multi-year trend in which weight had consistently fallen year on year.
- Home delivery grew by one percentage point, year-on-year, in terms of overall volume, with 15.5% of all pallets delivered to residential addresses (B2C) in 2024. More than half of residential deliveries are delivered on a next day service.

www.theapn.co.uk/news/apn-releases-2024-statistics.asp



NETWORK MEMBER NEWS



SIX NEW MEMBERS EXPAND THE UPN NETWORK TO 105 MEMBERS

UPN is pleased to welcome six new high-quality regional hauliers, expanding its network to 105 members.

"I would like to welcome these established and highly successful businesses into Team UPN. Every new member strengthens our network and upholds our commitment to exceptional service and carbon-neutral delivery," said UPN MD David Brown.

"As we continue to expand, UPN are fully committed to carbon-neutral excellence and superior service. Since our inception in 2001, we have prioritised innovation and service excellence. Now, our focus extends to leading the sector in Carbon Neutral Logistics."



YDL Distribution and Logistics

justydl.com - Over four decades YDL have become established as one of Yorkshire and the North East's largest independent carriers. YDL are based near York, with sites in County Durham, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire. YDL are covering part of the YO postcode area



Oxfreight - www.oxfreight.co.uk - Established over 35 years ago, Burcot based Oxfreight provide a wide range of UK and International services and have built strong relationships in multiple sectors.



Mitchells of Mansfield -

mitchellsmansfield.com - A family business proud of its Nottinghamshire origins. Since its inception in 1968, Mitchells has gone from strength to strength becoming both local and national specialists in overnight palletised freight operations.



DB Couriers - dbcouriers.net - Stockport based DB Couriers ship globally and provide a wide range of service options which include - Roadfreight, Seafreight, Airfreight and dedicated delivery across the UK and Europe.



Sovereign Transport Services -

www.sovereigntransport.com - was founded in Liverpool in 1999 and has grown from delivering 20 pallets a day to over 250,000 pallets a year and are renowned for their exceptional standard, across the UK.

Mike Garbutt Transport

Mike Garbutt Transport -

www.mgttransport.co.uk - Devizes based Mike Garbutt Transport was established in 1968 to move portable classrooms for the local authorities with one truck. In 1993 MGT moved to their current two acre site with purpose built warehousing and offices and provide a full range of UK and International delivery services.

In 2024, UPN became fully carbon neutral across all palletised freight deliveries, certified in partnership with Carbon Neutral Britain. This initiative ensures that all network members contribute to real-time carbon offsetting, positioning UPN as a pioneer within the logistics sector. Through its evolving partnership with Carbon Neutral Britain, UPN ensures that every palletised freight delivery is not only reliable but also environmentally responsible.



First Class Travel for Palletised Freight

UPN INTRODUCE CUSTOMISED PM DELIVERY SOLUTION

UPN are introducing a customised “PM” palletised freight delivery service, for customers who require deliveries after 12 noon. This new service offers greater flexibility, ensuring that businesses can better align logistics with their operational needs.

“UPN’s PM service responds to the growing demand for more adaptable delivery windows, empowering customers to plan their schedules with precision. Whether it’s accommodating late stock arrivals, aligning with afternoon staffing schedules, or supporting unique business operations, the PM service ensures that palletised freight arrives exactly when it’s needed.

By providing a reliable post-noon delivery option, UPN enhances supply chain efficiency, reduces storage pressures, and optimises resource planning. It’s about giving customers control, convenience, and confidence in every shipment.

“At UPN, we understand that one size doesn’t fit all when it comes to logistics,” said UPN MD David Brown, “Our PM service reflects our commitment to providing tailored solutions that meet the evolving demands of modern businesses.”

With the launch of the PM delivery service, UPN continues to lead the way in innovative logistics solutions. It’s not just about delivering pallets; it’s about delivering peace of mind and supporting business success.



LEADING A “GREEN REVOLUTION” IN THE UK PALLET NETWORK SECTOR



The UPN commitment to sustainability is now highly visible across the UK with new “jungle-themed” sustainability livery, a striking “On road” visual representation of our environmental mission.

Fleet, operated by valued UPN members including Parcelrite, UP Logistics, Farsley Transport, Lescost Transport, ADG Haulage, FSW Limited, Logic Distribution, and Burcombe Haulage, now proudly showcase this powerful livery, featuring lush green forests and vivid imagery of thriving wildlife.

“We wanted something that visibly signals our commitment to a greener future. Our jungle-themed livery is a powerful statement that sustainability is not just a side initiative—it’s embedded in everything we do,” said David Brown,

“This sustainability-focused livery serves multiple purposes. Not only does it communicate UPN’s environmental commitment to the public, but it also encourages other logistics firms to adopt greener

practices. The jungle-themed design highlights the direct link between logistics operations and environmental restoration efforts.”

“Sustainability” has transitioned from a commendable initiative to an essential strategic priority. UPN has embedded environmental responsibility throughout its operations. Through a series of targeted initiatives and



a robust partnership with Carbon Neutral Britain, UPN is not only mitigating its environmental impact but also setting a benchmark for the industry.

UPN’s sustainability journey is an evolving and ambitious initiative, reinforcing its position as a leader in the UK Pallet Network Sector. As the industry continues to navigate the complexities of environmental responsibility, UPN stands at the forefront, proving that a cleaner, greener, and more efficient logistics sector is within reach.



STEWARDED BRAND EXPOSURE GLOBALLY

At each AFC Bournemouth home fixture UPN are currently receiving fantastic brand exposure.

Nearly a hundred AFC Bournemouth matchday stewards are branded front and back with large scale UPN logos. With several huge goal celebrations and high profile match "incidents" already during this amazing Premier League season, exposure of UPN branded officials has been hugely visible on TV and in the media both across the UK and indeed across the world.

This superb marketing initiative has maintained the strong business relationship with leading Premiership football team, AFC Bournemouth.



TEAM UPNS CHARITY COMMITMENT

Amid the glitz and glamour, of our 2024 Annual Awards, UPN remembered those less fortunate.

Another great night of UPN Member celebration and connection once again was a catalyst for some amazing charity support from Team UPN. This year's UPN Charity Auction and Raffle raised £13,500

The nights fundraising efforts supported three very worthy causes: St Giles Hospice, the Wildlife Trust, and Air Ambulance Northern Ireland. These contributions exemplify our "Team UPN" commitment to making a difference both inside and outside the logistics sector.



SUPERB COLLABORATION SIGNIFICANTLY STRENGTHENS SERVICES ACROSS DEVON AND CORNWALL

Delivering seamless logistics in the challenging terrain of Devon and Cornwall is no small feat. With vast rural expanses, unpredictable coastal weather, and seasonal congestion, maintaining time-sensitive freight connections with the rest of the UK has long been a logistical headache.



Collaborative teamwork between UPN members, Saltash based Burcombe Haulage, Plymouth based HT Gardner Distribution, and Somerset based Logic Distribution is significantly streamlining freight movement across Devon and Cornwall ensuring greater reliability and efficiency.

The excellent collaborative work of Burcombe Haulage, HT Gardner Distribution and Logic Distribution has significantly solidified and enhanced our services in this challenging part of the UK.

Businesses across Devon and Cornwall can now depend on a robust and dependable logistics network, ensuring goods reach their destinations on time, every time.



First Class Travel for Palletised Freight

United Pallet Network, SmartHUB, Common Lane, Fradley Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 8NQ

T: 0844 833 0300 F: 0844 833 0301 W: upn.co.uk