

Featured Partner: C.H. Robinson



C.H. ROBINSON

ABOUT C.H. ROBINSON

C.H. Robinson solves logistics problems for companies across the globe and across industries. With \$21 billion in freight under management and 19 million shipments annually, it is one of the world's largest logistics platforms. With the combination of its multimodal transportation management system and expertise, C.H. Robinson provides logistics services to 105,000 customers and 73,000 carriers.

C.H. Robinson

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“ Measuring and reducing freight emissions to achieve sustainability goals is a top pain point in our industry. We are committed to collaborating with our customers, carriers and other stakeholders to discover efficiency opportunities and create a roadmap for change. ”

— Angie Freeman, Chief Human Resources & ESG Officer,
C.H. Robinson

SMART CHOICES, BIG SAVINGS

C.H. Robinson has long recognized that **sustainability is smart business**. It joined SmartWay in 2005 when the partnership was first forming. The partnership with EPA SmartWay supports the company's commitment to advance sustainability in transportation and logistics.

For decades C.H. Robinson has assisted clients with network rationalization, load, and mode optimization and more. More recently, as public concern over climate issues has grown, the company has developed reporting and analytical tools that can provide its customers with clear visibility into their supply chain's carbon footprint and year-over-year capabilities. **SmartWay's benchmarking tools and carrier ranking system** reinforces and aligns nicely with this work. The partnership also offers opportunities to share insights on the benefits of sustainability through case studies, webinars, and industry events.

TECHNOLOGY-BASED TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

As a logistics platform company, C.H. Robinson doesn't own truck assets. The value it brings to customers is in the development and application of technology-based transportation management solutions (TMS). C.H. Robinson logistics and supply chain professionals are experienced, highly skilled and trained. They collaborate with shippers, carriers, and other logistics providers to program and refine its TMS, and find ways to **reduce a customer's emissions footprint**, through the deployment of load and mode optimization strategies, enhanced utilization of transportation equipment, and reduced empty miles, among others.

To deliver on these services, C.H. Robinson invests in talent and technology. For example, Navisphere—its global TMS—**matches freight with carriers that receive the greatest yield value to create more fully-utilized trailers**. And with nearly 200,000 customers and carriers, the data that is available to C.H. Robinson offers an information advantage that can help drive smarter solutions for more efficient supply chains.



Featured Partner: C.H. Robinson *(continued)*

Another example is Emissions IQ—a new tool and data model developed in C.H. Robinson’s innovation incubator—that shows customers their **carbon emissions specific to mode, location, and retailer, as well as how many shipments were booked with SmartWay-registered carriers**. During the pilot phase, C.H. Robinson reports that its Emission IQ program helped 125 companies reduce carbon emissions by 350,000 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents, about as much carbon as would be released by 39 million gallons of gasoline.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

As it invests in big data and digital technologies, like artificial intelligence, machine learning and predictive analytics, C.H. Robinson strives to create technology that is built by and for its supply chain professionals and experts. The company currently manages an international team of more than 1,000 data scientists, engineers, and developers.

C.H. Robinson continually seeks to expand and strengthen its workforce. It engages with universities, community colleges and tech centers throughout the world on numerous partnerships and projects that help inform its technology investment and recruitment focus.

The company’s new Emissions IQ product offering demonstrates the benefits of this focus. The program was born out of C.H. Robinson’s goal to **advance sustainability within the transportation industry**.

The company also invested time and resources to standardize a new less-than-truckload (LTL) methodology for measuring carbon emissions. C.H. Robinson initially funded a project with MIT’s Center for Transportation & Logistics to address emissions of LTL shipments. The white paper for this original research can be found here [link - ctl.mit.edu/sites/ctl.mit.edu/files/library/public/2014ExecSummary-AguiarWoolard.pdf]. This research led to a unique collaboration with SmartWay, where EPA validated the approach developed at MIT for modeling LTL emissions. Subsequent to this collaboration, EPA SmartWay developed a simple calculator tool that can be used to **estimate carbon emissions from individual LTL shipments** (link to tool - www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-04/documents/420f21031.pdf).

WHAT’S NEXT?

As a company, C.H. Robinson leads by example, and plans **to continue its partnership with EPA SmartWay**. It will use SmartWay’s partner list to share information with shipper clients about carriers that are measuring, benchmarking, and working to improve their environmental performance. It also looks forward to future opportunities to engage with SmartWay on case studies, webinars, and industry events.

The company has a public goal to reduce its carbon intensity 40% by 2025, compared to its 2019 baseline. In coming years, C.H. Robinson will continue to conduct energy audits and identify opportunities for energy conservation at its largest owned and operated facilities, assess the feasibility of onsite renewable energy use and continue to responsibly leverage renewable energy credits and engage with offset projects.



Please visit the SmartWay website at www.epa.gov/smartway for more information about our Partners.

