



## International letter

### **What can be done to reduce the environmental impact of transport and logistics activities?**

Logistics accounts for almost 10% of CO2 emissions and most of these are due to freight transport!

Nowadays, the carbon footprint is a central issue in our society, even more so with the implementation of the Green New Deal, a project that requires reducing transport emissions by 2050 (80% of current emissions). In Europe, transport accounts for 1/4 of CO2 emissions (42% is freight) and is the only sector that has increased since 1990. As for air transport, even if it is less used, it is the most polluting, it represents a small share, but emits a lot of CO2 (560 g of CO2 for the transport of 1 tonne over 1 km).

As the French leader in Transport Management System (TMS) solutions, [DDS](#) offers its customers digitalization solutions to help them organize and monitor their transport flows. Their aim is to enable customers to understand the challenges of decarbonising transport and the solutions for measuring and reducing its emissions.

Jérôme Bour, President of DDS, gives the keys to reducing the environmental impact of companies' logistics and transport activities.

*"In addition to the Cop21 and all the challenges linked to the environment, there is a real awareness among companies of the stakes involved in reducing these CO2 emissions on at least three subjects: the voluntary commitment of companies, the impact on customers, more and more companies are subject to the expectations of their customers, and the impact on employees, which is an element of attractiveness, as almost all companies are subject to recruitment difficulties and today not having a responsible policy with regard to the environment seriously complicates recruitment.*

To know how much to reduce emissions and in what way, the first thing to do is to have a measure of it. *"These measures are based on a number of criteria, it's a theoretical calculation, to measure your emissions.* To find reliable data to measure its emissions, there are some actors like [ecotransit](#) who integrate these methods and give a unit calculation tool. But the first step in making this analysis on the customer's side is to understand the flows: where am I going to ship? to which zones? To which areas? etc.

To reduce these emissions, DDS offers three main solutions. *"The first is a unitary and precise calculation of emissions from the TMS, i.e. knowing what the company emits and how it is distributed. We will make a unitary calculation on each shipment. The second point is to identify the flows/areas where there is the most interest in taking action, because that is where emissions are highest.* Finally, optimising transport efficiency and in particular filling through planning, pooling of resources and optimisation of loads. *"Indeed, if we put more products in a lorry, we will inevitably reduce the quantity of CO2 emitted per product transported.*



*Reductions of up to 5% to 20% in CO2 emissions, with the added benefit of cost savings.*

Reducing environmental impact through logistics and transport activities will lead to ecological and economic gains. *"We will see a reduction in CO2 emissions of between 5% and 20% through better use of capacity, but also the automatic choice of carriers. A reduction in transport costs of 5% to 10% but also the improvement of the quality of service, of the transport chain, improving the efficiency of operations and automating productivity with the aim of facilitating the work of operators.*