

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE EVOLUTION OF TRANSPORTATION

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Transportation is one of the essential bedrocks of any development, the movement of people, goods and services serve as a basis for societies, regions and nations to thrive. The council of logistic management defines logistics as “that part of supply chain process that plans, implements, and controls the efficient, effective, forward and reverse flow and storage of goods, services, and related information between the point of origin and the point of consumption in order to meet customer requirement”. In ordinary language the same can be defined as right product or person, at the right place, in right time, and in right condition.

Transportation has evolved from the beginning of time, it started with walking, to using animals, carts to move heavier goods, canoes, ships, etc., and now, we have all sorts of vehicles and modes from transportation; road, water bodies, air and underground.

If examined critically, one major drive for the development of transportation over time is the need to move faster and easily i.e., speed and functionality, efficiency and effectiveness of these transportation medium.

In an increasingly real-time economy speed and timing are key. It might sound obvious but the consequences for supply chains, logistics and the transportation industry are huge.

Efficiency, optimization, speed and timing have always been crucial in logistics and transportation. The evolution of digital technology over time has further helped in the development of transportation services. Today, amidst a range of accelerating evolutions and in an increasingly digital environment where digital transformations and the rise of IoT are driving the next revolution of industry, known as Industry 4.0, it is even more so.

Transportation, travel, and logistics industry has experienced a digital move because of technical progressions. New-age technologies in the market are bitten by the extension and skyline of the transportation business. Engaged with these advances, organizations can build business precision, customize benefits, and comprehend and anticipate the clients’ conduct and preferences.

Digital Transformation upgrades coordinated effort and sharing while at the same time lessening the effort and expanding the adaptability of the activities. Digital sources can likewise empower organizations to get the most recent knowledge on the worldwide patterns and direct a key and target examination of the business process.

Urban development planning has one of its major roots in transportation and logistics planning, it is therefore very important that the advancement in digital technology is put into consideration for the consistent development of cities. There is high need for us to be as current and evolved as possible so that we can make absolute use of the consistent evolution in technological advancement.

Some methods that can be adopted to achieving this goal include;

- A study of spatial impact of ICT should be included in the planning process because there is need to understand the dynamics of Information Technology and how it can be used to influence transportation and logistics planning. This will bring about effective and efficient planning.
- The development of digital technology infrastructure should be included as an essential part to the planning and to the content of plans.
- Another step is to continually upgrade regulations and principles guiding transportation and logistics to evolve with technology. The current planning principles should be updated and opportunities for gaining new insights into planning should be seen as a challenge for the planners.

Evolution is an unavoidable phenomenon, it has been in existence and will continue to influence the growth of the world therefore, no aspect of the functionality of the entire system of the world should be left untouched as this positive change comes up.

Infusing Digital Technology in Transportation and Logistics Planning will sky rocket development of nations and the world as a whole.