

NEWS | TECHNOLOGY

Freight Orders Rise 6.9% as Order-to-Ship Times Fall 34%, While Higher LTL Consolidation Helps Operators Improve Trailer Utilization Amid Rising Fuel Costs

By **Ankit Kankar** | September 13, 2026

Image Courtesy: Public Domain

- SC Codeworks' H1 2026 platform data shows the logistics industry is moving faster, with total freight orders up 6.9% year over year and June posting the strongest month at 14.6% growth over June 2025.
- Average order-to-ship cycle times fell 34% year over year - from 19.76 days in H1 2025 to 13.04 days in H1 2026 - as businesses ordered closer to actual demand and expected faster warehouse execution.
- Warehouse operators consolidated LTL freight more efficiently, raising average orders per load 19% (from 4.87 to 5.79) and growing high-density loads of 20+ orders from 5.2% to 6.5% of all consolidations.
- Even as diesel prices climbed after geopolitical disruptions, operators shipped 26% more LTL volume while holding consolidation rates steady at 74-75% - maximizing trailer utilization instead of adding trucks.

[SC Codeworks](#), a provider of warehouse management software (WMS) for logistics operators, released its H1 2026 supply chain performance data, revealing a logistics industry that is becoming faster, more efficient and increasingly resilient despite ongoing economic and transportation challenges.

Supply Chains Are Moving Faster

Using SC Codeworks platform data to compare the first-half of 2026 performance against the same period in 2025, the report found total freight orders increased 6.9% year over year during the first half of 2026, signaling continued demand across the logistics sector. June recorded the strongest monthly performance, with freight orders climbing 14.6% compared to June 2025.

At the same time, average order-to-ship cycle times fell dramatically. Average fulfillment time decreased 34% year over year, dropping from 19.76 days in H1 2025 to 13.04 days in H1 2026.

The trend suggests businesses are placing orders closer to actual demand while expecting significantly faster warehouse execution, reflecting a more agile and responsive supply chain environment.

Operators Improve LTL Efficiency as Transportation Costs Rise

The report also found that warehouse operators became more efficient in consolidating less-than-truckload (LTL) shipments during a period of elevated fuel costs.

From January through April 2026:

- Average orders per consolidation load increased 19%, rising from 4.87 to 5.79 orders per load.
- High-density loads carrying 20 or more orders grew from 5.2% of all consolidations in January to 6.5% in February, remaining elevated through April.
- Overall shipped LTL volume increased 26%, while consolidation rates remained consistently between 74% and 75%, demonstrating that operators maintained shipping discipline even as freight volumes increased.

These trends coincided with a significant increase in diesel prices following geopolitical disruptions earlier this year, suggesting organizations responded by maximizing trailer utilization instead of increasing truck deployments.

"The data tells a clear story. Companies are compressing their planning horizons, ordering closer to actual need and expecting the supply chain to keep pace," said Amy Dean, Vice President of Operations at SC Codeworks. "On the LTL side, operators are responding the right way, packing more work into every load rather than adding trucks. And underneath all of it, volume is growing. That combination tells us the logistics industry is not just surviving a demanding environment. It is adapting to it."

Read online: <https://worldbusinesswatch.com/news/13/102/sc-codeworks-data-shows-logistics-industry-accelerating-freight-and-warehouse-efficiency-in-h1-2026.html>

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