

David Lyons

Operations Leadership & Supply Chain Management

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SUMMARY

Operations leader and manager with 14+ years building high-performing teams and running dependable operations — from a 54.5% jump in company-wide standings as a distribution-center GM to coordinating safe, on-time rail operations across 2,000+ miles. Pairs people leadership with data-driven management (Power BI, KPIs, cost reduction) to deliver measurable performance.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

General Manager

2024 – Present

American Tire Distributors | Carrollton, TX

- Directed multi-million-dollar distribution center operations and spearheaded its turnaround, driving a 54.5% jump in company-wide standings through performance-driven initiatives, strategic planning, and refined data utilization.
- Improved warehouse efficiency by 10% through the design of custom Excel tools and streamlined production workflows, improving team proficiency in data analysis and reducing operational bottlenecks.
- Improved route truck delivery window success by 7.3% and enhanced customer satisfaction through driver training programs and manifest analysis while maintaining DOT compliance.
- Implemented real-time supply chain monitoring using OTIF (On-Time In Full) metrics and Power BI dashboards to track customer orders daily, enhancing visibility and enabling rapid disruption response.
- Cultivated a high-performing 30-person team by leading talent acquisition, mentoring operations staff, implementing training programs, and fostering data-driven decision-making.
- Improved financial performance by reducing overtime expenses 15% and improving inventory variance, mitigating missed product sales through strategic cost-saving measures.

Manager of Yard Operations

2022 – 2023

Union Pacific Railroad | Mesquite, TX

- Ensured quality customer service, timely deliveries, system fluidity, and daily coordination of over 700 freight cars.
- Reduced safety incidents 3% by conducting Field Training Exercises, addressing rule violations, and enforcing Federal Code compliance.
- Reduced terminal dwell time by 2 hours by streamlining processes to improve efficiency and throughput in yard operations.
- Boosted departure reliability 5% through streamlined communication between yard operations and train dispatchers.

Corridor Manager

2016 – 2022

Union Pacific Railroad | Spring, TX

- Led dispatching teams of 10+, monitoring terminal dwell and subdivision velocity, achieving a 5% increase in schedule adherence through a positive culture and strong field support.
- Supervised transportation plans across 3 corridors, coordinating with yard masters and field crews to prioritize main track access and increase throughput by upwards of 10%.
- Optimized operations across high-volume corridors, ensuring service quality for Class 1 railroads and reducing downtime 3 hours per week through revolving dispatcher shift plans.
- Prioritized safety and compliance through shift check-ins, reducing safety incidents 8% by reviewing active traffic, incidents, and dispatcher well-being.

Train Dispatcher

2011 – 2016

Union Pacific Railroad | Omaha, NE

- Directed train traffic and coordinated train and maintenance crews across 2,000+ miles of territory, remotely managing signal systems and ensuring safe, efficient operations.
- Prevented a potential multi-million-dollar derailment by monitoring dispatch systems and intervening to halt an oncoming train when another went into emergency.
- Dispatched 15–35 trains daily of diverse types — Amtrak, coal, auto, and intermodal — carrying passengers and cargo.
- Elevated delivery timeliness by approximately 15% through strategic routing and scheduling adjustments, minimizing congestion across the rail network.

Land Surveyor / Survey Engineer

2009 – 2011

Clear Fork Surveying & Mapping Co., Inc. | Graham, TX

- Performed all aspects of the entire field-to-finish land survey, including GPS data collection and total-station surveys to determine property boundaries, riparian boundaries, easements, and well-location surveys for as-drilled and permit plat requirements.
- Conducted project research to obtain legal descriptions from deeds and leases, then drafted legal descriptions and associated survey plats for deed records.
- Computed map projections between State Plane grid coordinates and geographic latitude/longitude.

EDUCATION

Associate of Spatial Sciences — Texas A&M University

Certifications: Google Data Analytics (Coursera): Foundations: Data, Data, Everywhere · Ask Questions to Make Data-Driven Decisions · Prepare Data for Exploration · Process Data from Dirty to Clean · Analyze Data to Answer Questions

SKILLS

Skills: Operational Excellence | Supply Chain & Logistics Management | Performance Metrics & KPI Tracking | Program & Project Analysis | Data Visualization with Power BI | Cross-Functional Team Leadership | Revenue Growth & Cost Reduction | Advanced Excel (Macros)

Software: Oracle WMS | Descartes Logistics Suite | Power BI | Google Workspace | Generative AI Tools