Shipping & Packaging Optimization Project

Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to reduce the time between when an order is complete to when it is booked on a truck for shipment, while maintaining our freight cost efficiency.

Back-story:

Our standard lead-time is three weeks from point of order processing to the point where the shipment is booked on a truck for shipment. This allows for one week of production and two weeks for scheduling and securing freight for the shipment. To improve our productivity through less paint and film changeovers we would like to increase the production time from one week to two weeks and decrease the time to secure freight from two weeks to one week.

Challenge:

Given the size of the product Longboard ships and depending on the location it is going to, securing freight within one week is not realistically achievable in all areas within the current structure of our operations. For example, shipping to a main city like Toronto is easy to secure freight because there is lots of traffic going to Toronto and there is lots of traffic coming back from Toronto. However, shipping to a location like Barrie would most likely have to ship to a Toronto warehouse and then will have to transfer to another truck that is heading to Barrie. The way trucking works is that the trucking companies don't commit to something until they know they have a back-haul coming out of the location they are shipping to. That is why it can take up to two weeks to secure the shipping.

Proposal:

In order to maintain the 3 week lead-time, I would like Shipping to be to have the shipping details prior to the order completing packaging. This would include:

- 1. Completion Date
- 2. Number of Bundles
- 3. Weight and Dimensions of Bundles

Tolerances	
Completion Date:	Actual must be the day of or earlier
Number of Bundles:	No Tolerance – qty of bundles must match
Shipping Dimensions:	Height: +/- 3" on Height of Bundles
	Width: +/- 3"; but can not exceed 22" width overall
Shipping Weights:	Total order weight cannot exceed over 150 lbs