MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Continuous Improvement & Problem Solving

MGMT 6760

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FMEA: Risk and Current Topics

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April 9, 2023

**Article:**

Link, C. (2022, March 15). *The Top 10 Reasons Why Freight Shipments Fail*. Worldwide Transportation Solutions. Retrieved April 9, 2023, from https://www.atsinc.com/blog/10-reasons-freight-shipments-fail

**Overview**

My chosen article discusses common reasons why freight shipments fail. The most common reasons listed include Inclement weather, transportation equipment breakdowns, interstate (/highway) congestion, and communication issues. These are issues that should be vitally important to everyone, as everyone receives their daily commodities and food because of these successful operations.

After a review it was determined that the Risk Priority Factors fell as follows:

1. Inclement weather
   1. (RPN: 16) > (RPN: 8)
2. Transportation equipment breakdown
   1. (RPN: 16) > (RPN: 8)
3. Interstate (/highway) congestion
   1. (RPN: 12) > (RPN: 3)
4. Communication issues
   1. (RPN: 6) > (RPN: 3)

* Inclement weather was listed as the first risk priority factor due to both its potential impact on operations and the damage that could be done to both operational capital (the transport trucks) and the products themselves. This remained the top concern after recommendations were implemented, mostly due to the consistent likelihood of occurrence and the severity of the impact).
  + The recommendation for this RPN was to increase tracking of weather conditions and increase route planning efforts.
* Transportation equipment breakdown was listed as the second risk priority factor due to both the operational capacity impact it could have and its potential impact on the products themselves.
  + The recommendation for this RPN was to conduct regular inspections of the vehicles.
* Interstate (/highway) congestion was listed as the third risk priority factor due to its limited occurrence, yet significant impact on operations.
  + The recommendation for this RPN was to track daily transport conditions and plan routes based on recent (or historical) congestion data.
* Communication issues were listed as the fourth risk priority factor due to their relatively low occurrence and simple detectability when compared to the prior listed concerns.
  + The recommendation for this RPN was to require written, clear, communication for shipments as well as a contact number to clarify orders when needed.