



“Going the Extra Mile.....”

February 2022: COVID-19 Update.

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We continue to monitor and mitigate the potential impact of COVID-19 to public health in line with government guidance on social distancing and operate all our services as normal across the UK according to our status as key workers providing essential services. The number one priority remains the safety and well-being of our people and colleagues throughout the industry.

Hands. Face. Space. Fresh Air.

We continue to take all necessary precautions and prevention measure in line with government guidelines to business and our own COVID-Secure procedures. As front-line workers, social distancing indoors remains a high priority at all our operating centres and depots as well as the continued supply and use of PPE to all our people and especially our drivers.

We carry out regular tests of employees in the workplace to check the health of our workplace and encourage all our employees to protect themselves against COVID-19 through the NHS vaccination campaign.

Supply Chain Woes Continue.

The New Year quickly saw freight volumes returning to pre-Christmas levels in most sectors with the exception of retail. We continue to experience at first hand the frequent disruption to customers' supply chains caused by either price pressures, labour shortages or product availability and in extreme cases a combination of all three.

A new worry has appeared for the transport sector with widespread disruption to vehicle manufacturers operations and an acute shortage of spare parts and a complete shutdown of order books for new vehicles. We are experiencing greater downtime across the fleet in common with other operators which in turn affects vehicle availability to customers causing further delays and disruption to supply chain operations.

Service Restrictions

We are operating services for full load, part load and pallet distribution across the country as normal. A small number of service restrictions on TPN services remain in one or two areas only. In recent reviews published by APN (Association of Pallet Networks) TPN came out as the best-performing network in the sector, a reflection of the high-quality service and communications provided throughout a very difficult period.

Future Forecast.

We expect continued pressure on the transport industry in general as firms battle against the backlog of LGV tests, a shrinking vehicle fleet and higher wage costs. The actions we have taken to improve our recruitment and training processes as well as bringing forward capital investment in our fleet to increase resources are showing a positive impact on our operations. We are aware, however, market conditions looking forward remain extremely uncertain and are likely to impact transport operations significantly as the economy continues to recover from COVID.

As your distribution partner, I and my team will continue to do what we do best and go the extra mile. We continue to listen and work with all customers to meet your requirements with our dedicated and skilled teams to make sure we continue to perform at our best.

Yours sincerely

Charles Downie

Managing Director