



Intelligent Inventory Optimization

SUPPLY CHAIN
PLANNING AS A SERVICE

PaaS

Realize the benefits of AI-powered forecasting and planning processes with minimal IT involvement or investment.

The Promise of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** and **Machine Learning (ML)**

AI and ML have had proven applications in the retail industry.

Businesses are beginning to see the value in using new data and AI to improve supply chain management, forecasting and inventory planning processes and the customer experience. AI-powered planning technologies provide insights that give retailers a holistic view of supply chains that aligns the merchandising and supply chain functions.

With a “single source of truth,” retailers can make better supply chain decisions to build and execute optimal inventory plans within the organization and across trading partner channels and relationships.

However, bringing together the vast amount of data from multiple systems to be available for AI to translate complex supply chain, operational, and consumer data into actionable insights requires powerful tools and appropriately skilled resources. And due to the talent shortage, finding, training and retaining staff with the appropriate data science and analytical skills is a huge challenge within the industry today.

Without the right tools, process and staff to create accurate demand forecasts quickly and deploy optimal assortment, replenishment and allocation plans, retailers will struggle to operate a successful supply chain management organization. Some companies have built their supply chain management capabilities from the ground up. Others have adopted innovative SaaS-based technologies and have in-house staff trained. However, due to the shortage of supply chain experts and the notoriously high-turnover of supply chain staff, some companies turn to Supply Chain **Planning as a Service**.

The Old Pre-Pandemic Supply Chain Days **ARE OVER**

Smart companies are now reaping the benefits of a Supply Chain Planning “as-a-Service” option.

The retail sector needs supply chain optimization now more than ever to improve working capital, minimize risks and stay ahead of the competition. The supply chains of pre-pandemic days are over due to the continuous series of unprecedented challenges and ever-shifting customer expectations. Compounding these challenges is the lack of knowledgeable and skilled supply chain talent. 4R PaaS is for companies with complex supply chains, but lack the right structure, talent or technology needed to respond to current and future challenges.

Outsourcing can bring significant benefits to most businesses. Outsourcing can help reduce costs, gain operational efficiencies, expand capabilities and fill skill gaps in many functions. As supply chain management and inventory planning functions grow in importance, they have become ideal business functions that can benefit from an “as-a-service” option for retailers.

Retailers are scrambling to improve their supply chain capabilities and talent pool (analysts, operations and demand planners). The 4R PaaS option builds a company’s supply chain operational capabilities by aligning skilled business intelligence, analytical, planning and operations talent with your specific supply chain and inventory optimization requirements.



OUTSOURCING

Supply Chain Planning as a Service

Let 4R Harness the Power of AI/ML Planning for You

What is Supply Chain Planning as a Service?

Supply chain planning uses forecasts to develop demand plans that optimize inventory levels and their allocation across locations. Successful supply chain management organizations have a holistic view of the supply chain and successfully get the right products, in the right quantities on the right shelf, at the right time, in every store.

If supply chain planning is the process that manages the supply needed to support demand requirements, then Supply Chain **Planning as a Service** is an outsourced solution and service model, where external experts execute all aspects of the process and help companies achieve operational excellence. Supply Chain Planning as a Service helps companies gain control of their supply chain through leading practices and expertise.

Planning as a Service creates supply chain organizations that manage agile and sustainable supply chains. It puts the right people, processes and tools in place to achieve **Supply Chain Operational Excellence**.

THE 4R MODEL OF EXCELLENCE

Building a Successful Supply Chain Operation Requires
5 Fundamental Operational Excellence Practices



PLANNING SERVICES

With 4R Planning as a Service, the team that built the 4R solutions is the team that provides planning services to increase the rigor of your operations management, providing greater predictability and reducing risk.

The team comprises seasoned experts who complement AI/ML algorithms and technology with human intelligence and human interaction in your forecast and planning process. We bring leading practices and focus on the things that matter, like forecasting and monitoring plans, acting on service level exceptions to optimize inventory and replenishment cycles and mitigate risks of overstock and lost sales.

PLANNING SOLUTIONS



□ Demand Planning

Identify true demand, utilizing AI and machine-learning, and generate more accurate forecasts, driving more accurate upstream and downstream processes that maximize profitability.

■ Replenishment Planning

Enable multi-echelon inventory management that is guaranteed to maximize profit across all channels, reduce inventory carrying cost and deliver superior customer service.

■ Allocation Planning

Allocate the right amount of inventory to the most profitable locations at the right time, minimize stranded end-of-season inventory and reduce the need for future markdowns.

■ Vendor Order Optimization

Enable buyers to make informed decisions on buying requirements when executing demand, replenishment and allocation plans.

■ Markdown Optimization

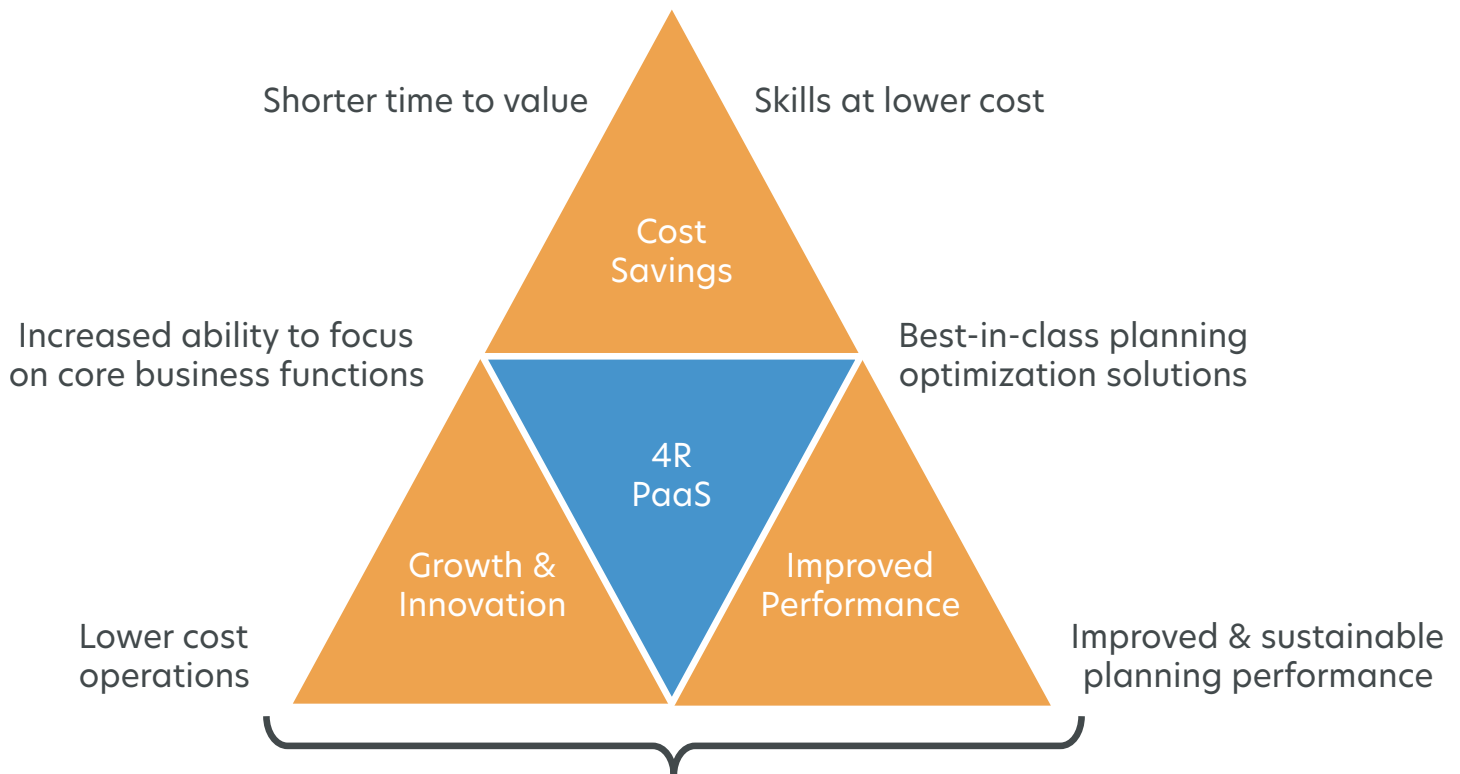
Maximize revenue and achieve merchandising goals each season by recommending the optimal timing and depth of end-of-season and end-of-life markdowns.

■ Assortment Optimization

Optimize product offerings at each store to meet customer preferences and drive revenue growth through data-driven insights, resulting in improved customer satisfaction.

4R Planning as a Service Approach

Proven to Drive Revenue Growth, Cost Reduction,
and Capital Efficiency Improvements



PROVEN ACHIEVED AND SUSTAINED BENEFITS

Product Availability	➔	10-30% reduction in stock outs
Inventory	➔	5-20% increase in inventory turns
Obsolescence	➔	20-40% reduction in obsolete inventory
Operating Costs	➔	10-30% reduction in operating costs



Intelligent Inventory Optimization

Why Choose 4R?

The 4R suite of AI-powered supply chain management and inventory optimization solutions and planning team are meeting the challenge of today's turbulent consumer markets.

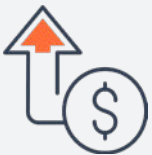
Best-in-class supply chain planning and operations personnel who provide leading practices and guidance in a consistent, predictable cadence and cost

Single point of accountability for application maintenance and updates, continuous improvement of core demand planning function and SLAs designed to ensure high-availability

Enhanced alignment of supply chain ecosystem requirements with talent management

Unparalleled experience and unique blend of strategy, process, and technology skills to link strategic intents to business outcomes

Are you achieving these type of benefits* for your business?



**INCREASE SALES
BY
12-18%**



**INCREASE PROFIT
BY
6-10%**



**REDUCE INVENTORY
CARRYING COSTS
BY
2-8%**



**REDUCE
STOCK-OUTS BY
14-25%**



**REDUCE
MARKDOWN LOSS
BY
12-20%**

***4R benchmarking results from 40 clients**

“One of my favorite parts of working with 4R is the Customer Success team. I know by the time I get to that Thursday meeting, I’ll have a good sense of where that next week is headed..”

*~ Jared Brown, Senior Analyst
Aubuchon Hardware*



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