The supply chain industry is going through what could be termed a tectonic shift—emerging technologies, consumer expectations, new entrants, disruption, digital transformation and a volatile economic and regulatory environment.

While it is easy to recognize that innovation can be a great enabler to driving supply chain value, adopting the best processes and selecting not just the latest but the best technology solutions can be daunting task. Changes of this magnitude often require extensive reviews of products and providers, and a significant investment of resources and time in selecting and implementing new technologies. There are numerous factors to consider including how new systems will integrate with existing IT infrastructure and the level of change management required to adapt existing processes internally and with external vendors. And, what if the technology you invested in does not deliver as promised or the new manufacturer is acquired or goes out of business unexpectedly?

Many companies are choosing to let a leading 3PL provider “kick the tires” for them to drive ROI with new methods and systems. A 3PL provider that has expertise in innovation methodologies, emerging technologies, and testing strategies can evaluate multiple solutions and make recommendations based on the understanding of your unique service requirements and operational structure. This allows supply chain managers to make informed and impactful business decisions, while avoiding some of the common “bumps in the road.”