

Sharing Information Across The Supply Chain

Richard van der Meulen
TruEconomy Consulting

CILT Supply Chain management
1 March 2010

United Kingdom

Real GDP (annual % change)

2008: 0.6

Forecasts

2009: -4.6

2010: 0.9

Unemployment rate forecasts

(annual % change)

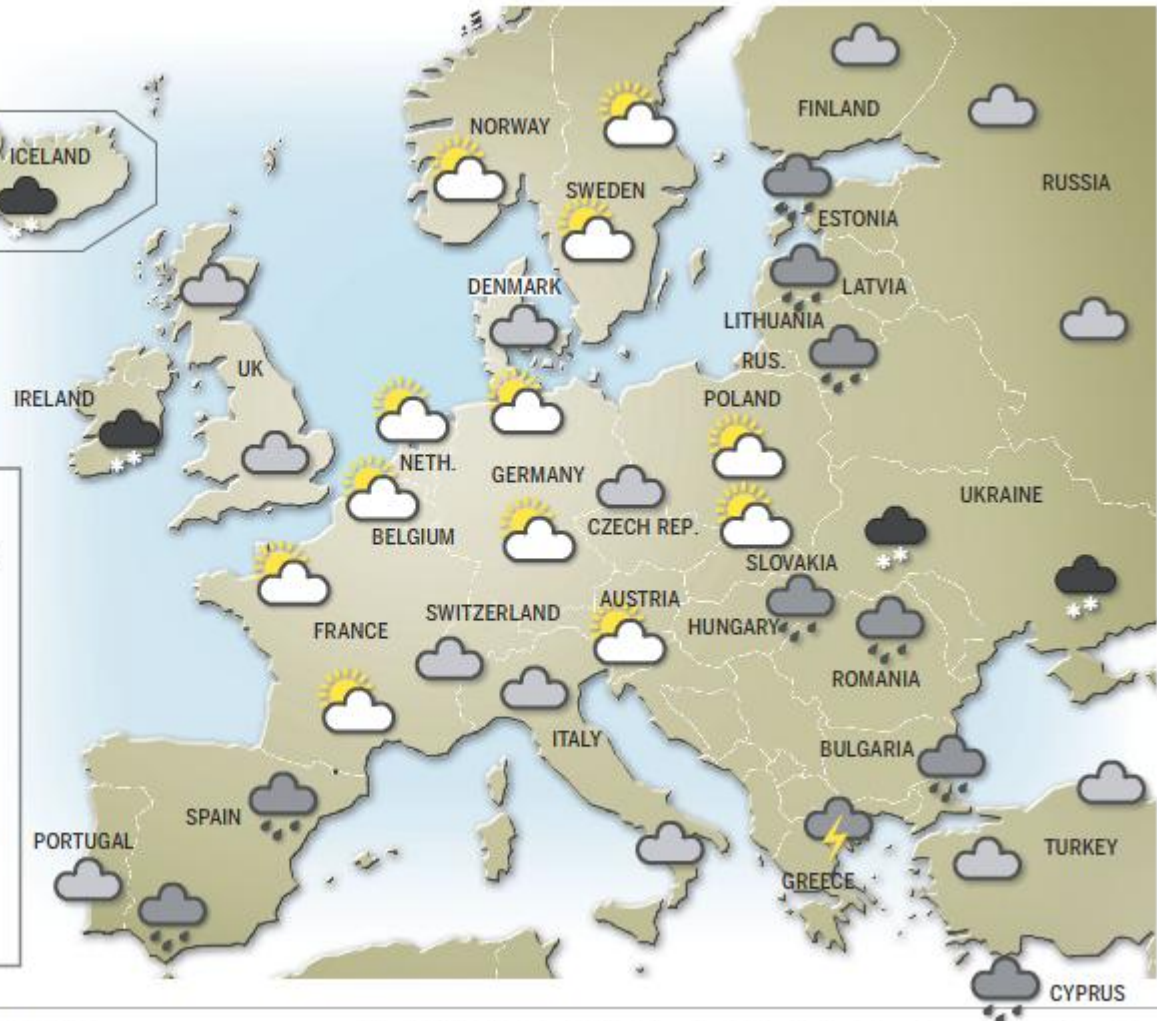
2009: 7.8

2010: 8.7



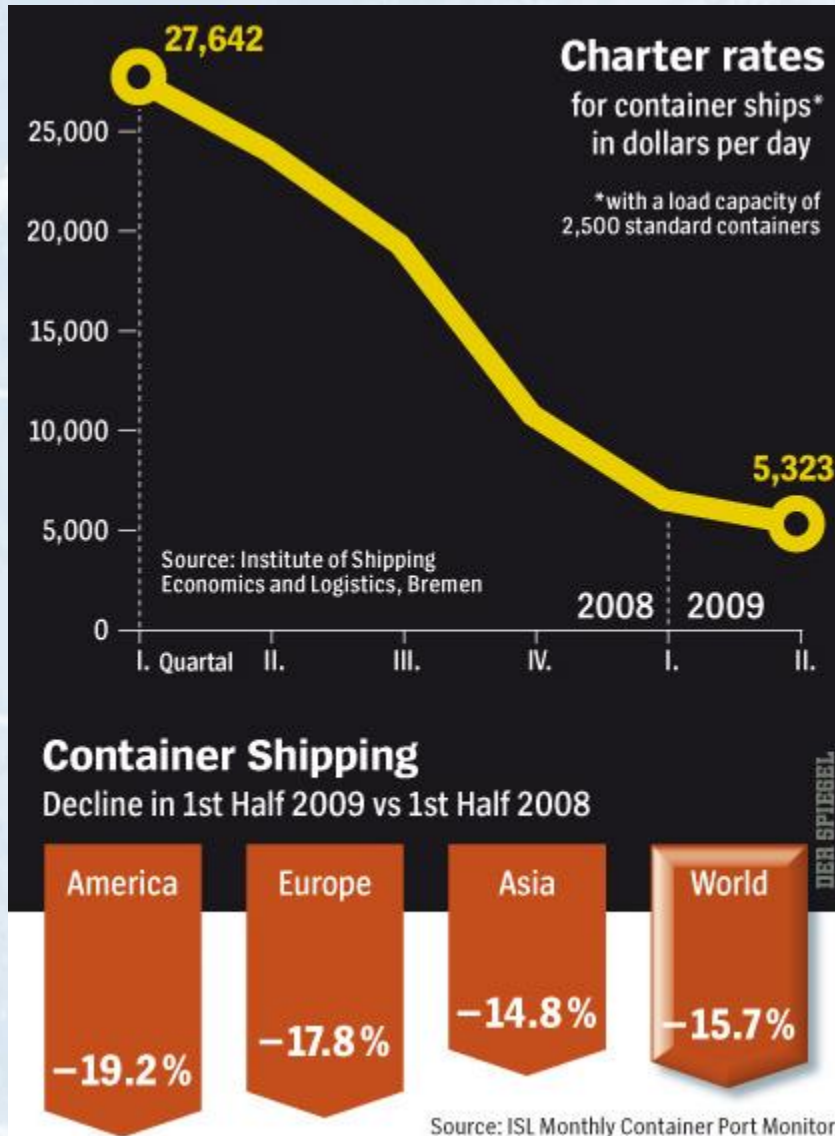
Key

- Economic growth accelerating, unemployment falling
- Clouds over growth with some sunny prospects
- Clouds over growth
- Sudden change in outlook, outlook uncertain
- Gloom looks persistent
- Serious disruption to the economy, likely to last

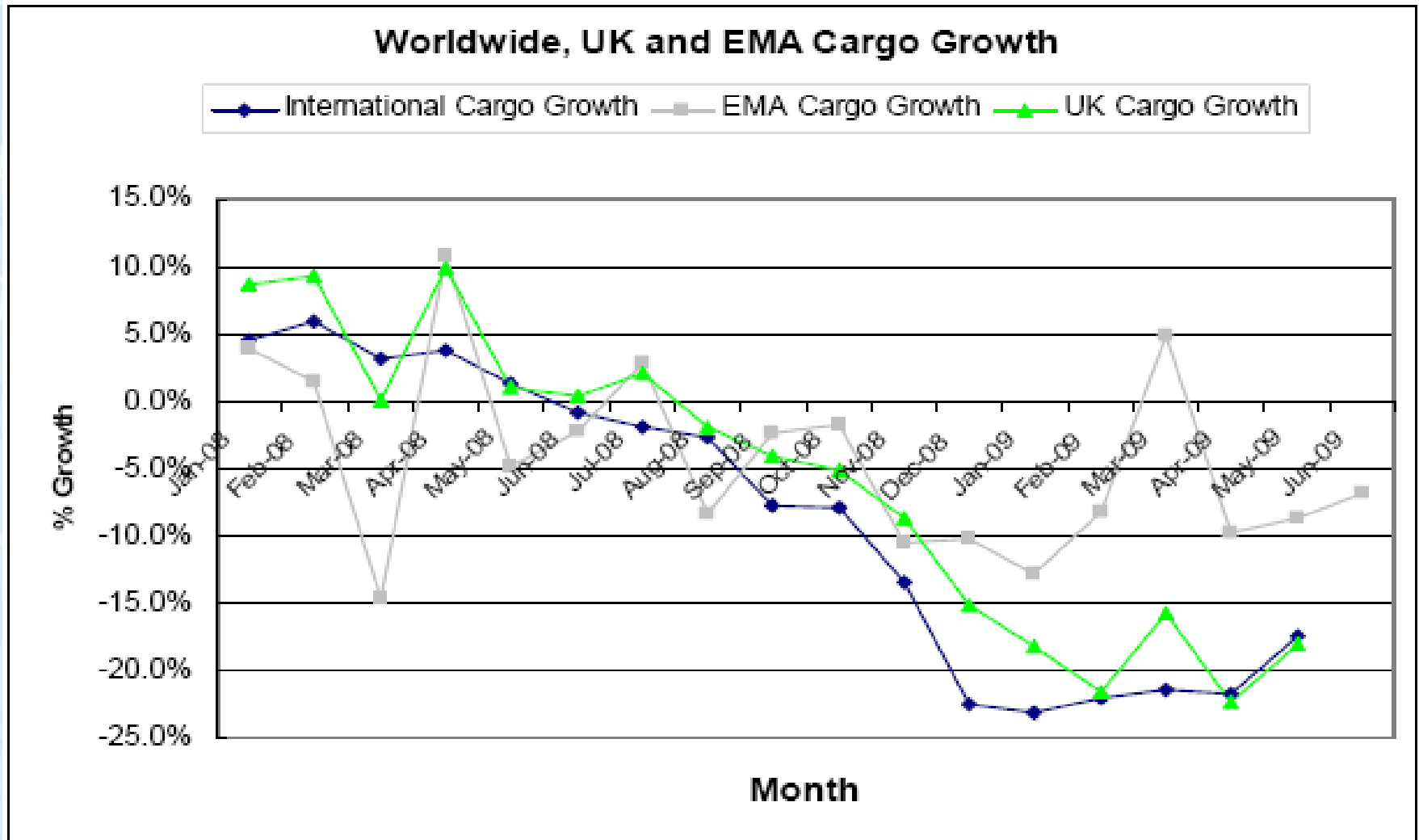


Sources: FT correspondents; Consensus Economics; EIU; EC; OECD

Artwork by Natalie Croker • Flash design and production by Cleve Jones, Shannon Bond and Steven Bernard



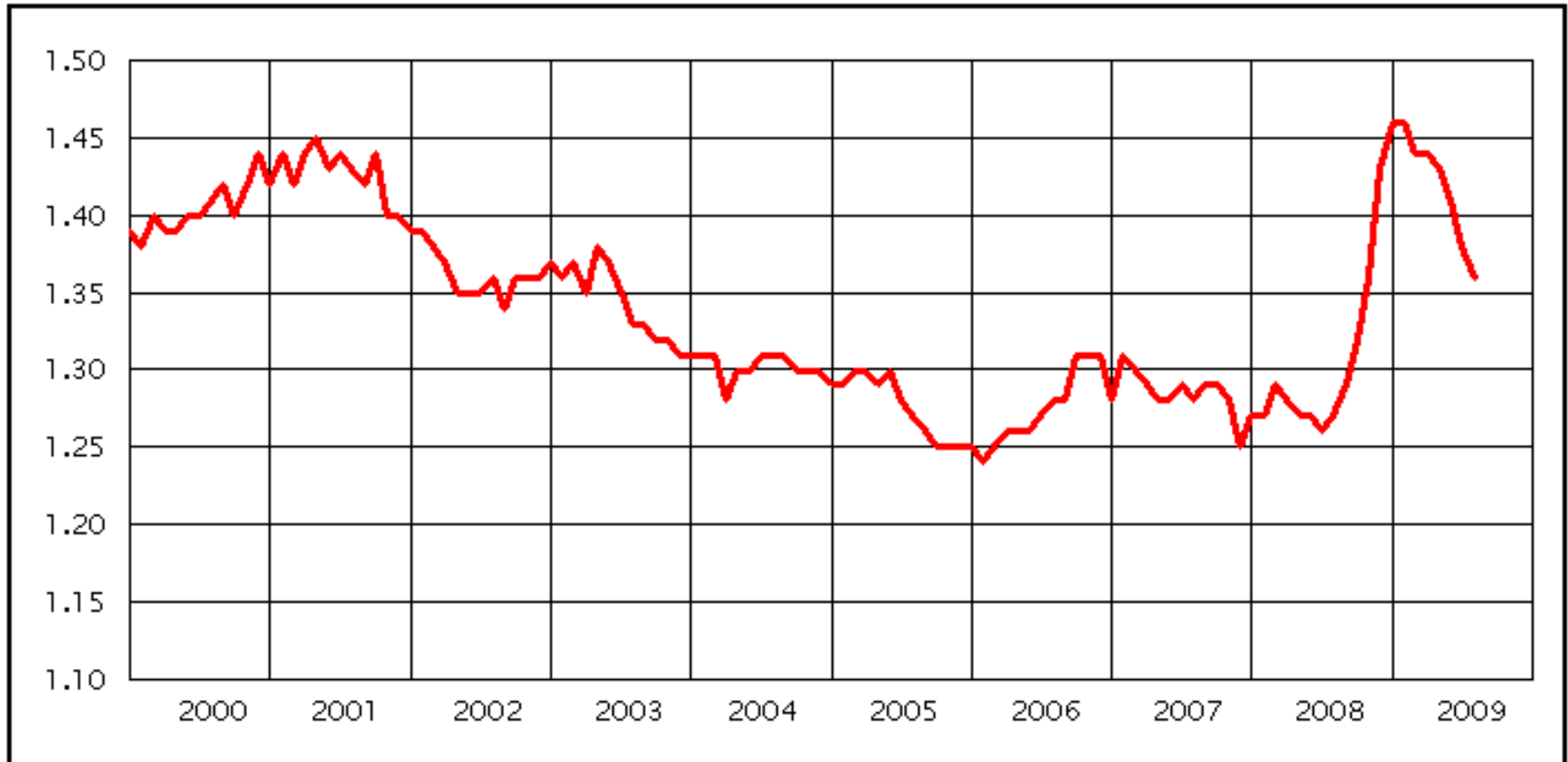
15% decline in
container
shipping 08-09



Source(s): www.iata.org, www.caa.co.uk, EMA Monthly Stats

Total Business Inventories/Sales Ratios: 2000 to 2009

(Data adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading-day differences but not for price changes)

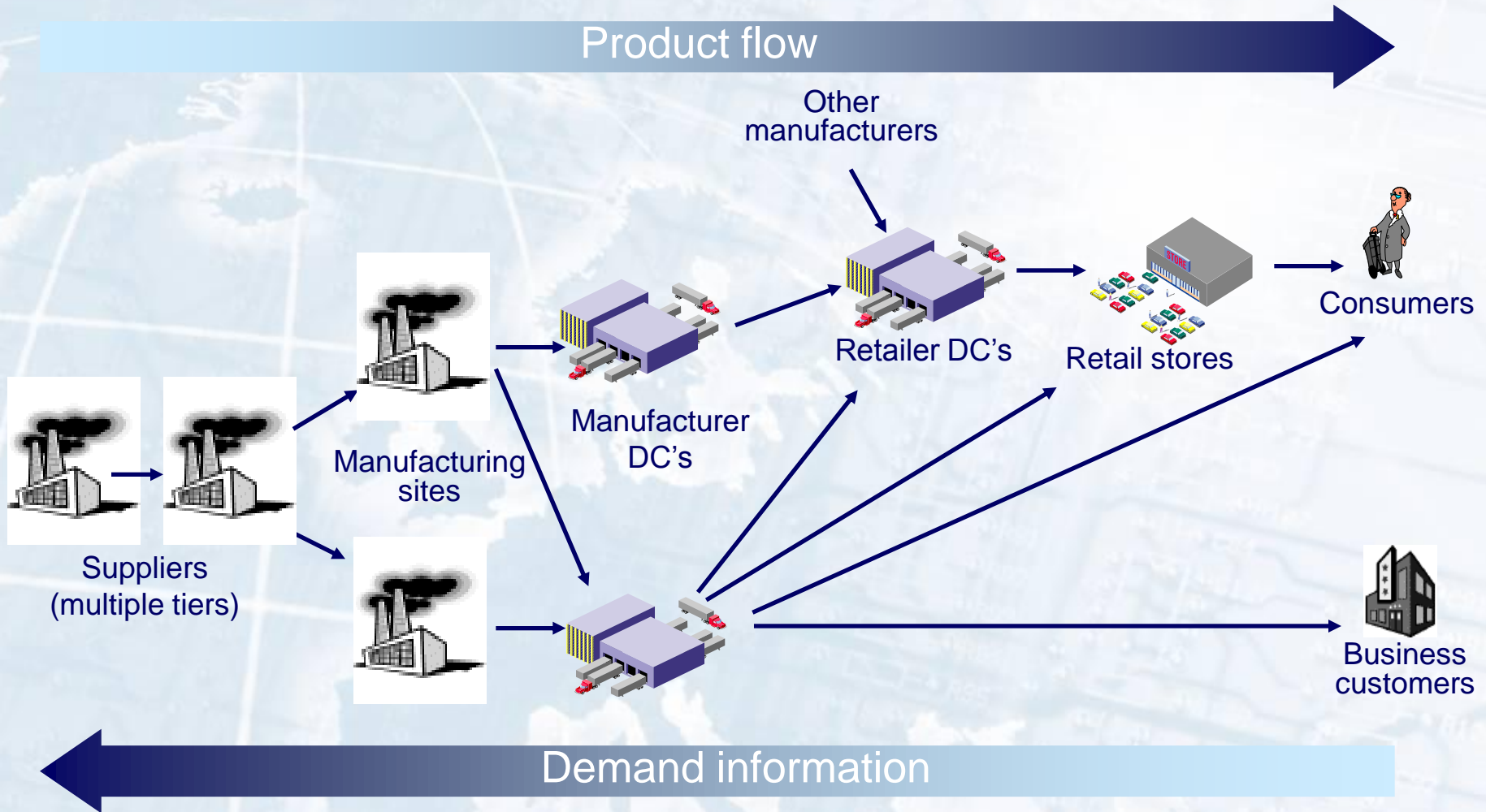


Source(s): www.census.gov

What are people doing?

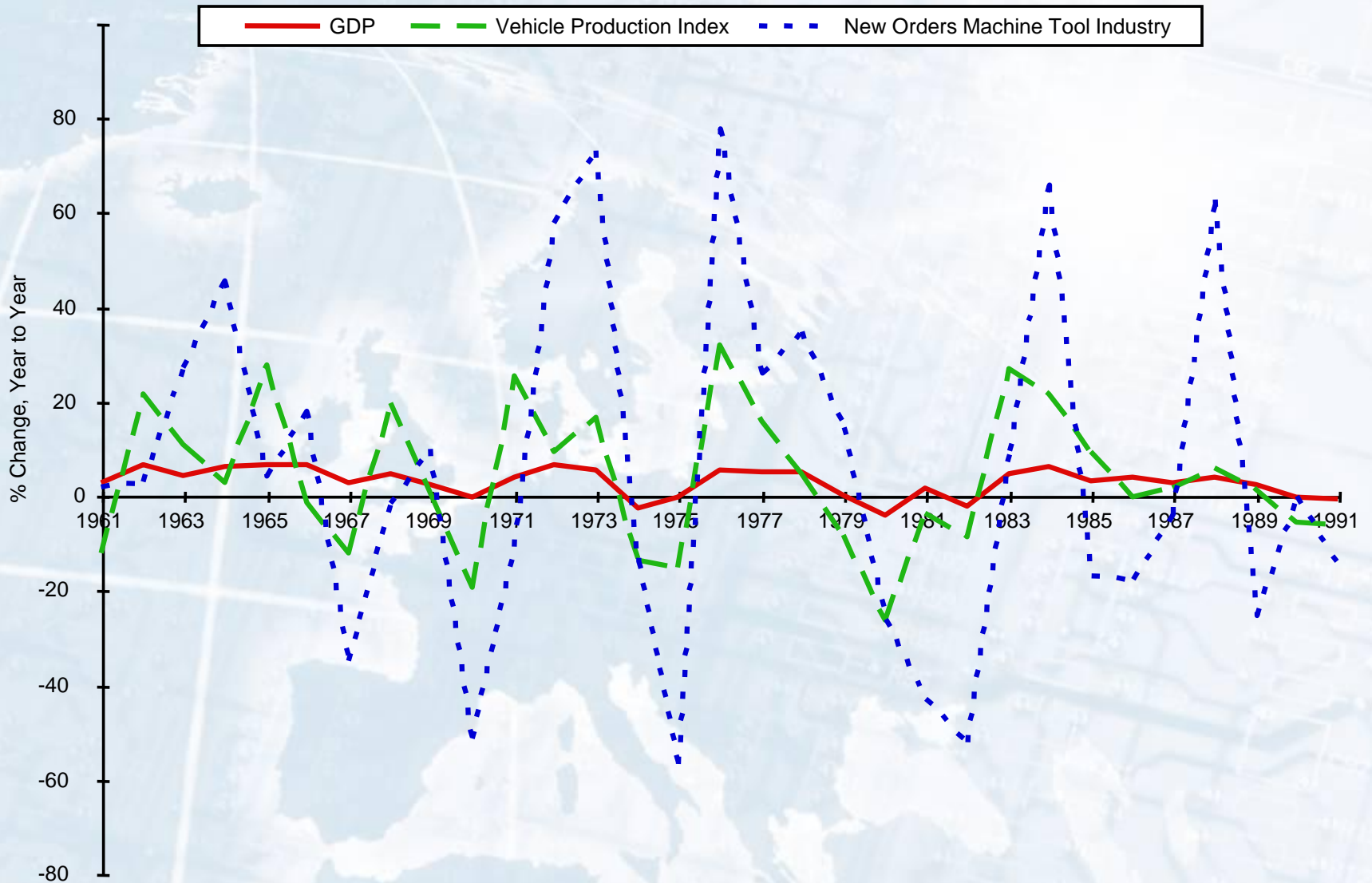
- Cash flow
 - Debt collection
 - Payment terms
 - Inventory reduction
- Reduce cost
- Variabilise cost
- Supply Risk management
- Multi sales channels
- Service offering
- Supply chain collaboration

The supply chain

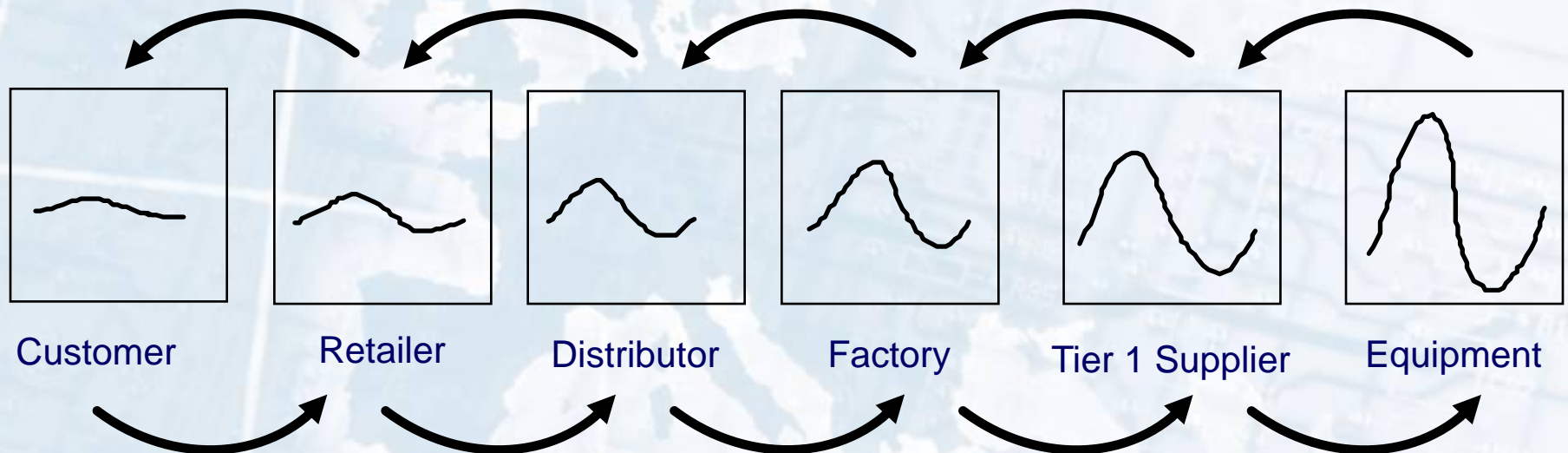


Each industry has its own supply chain structure and issues, but many principles are common ...

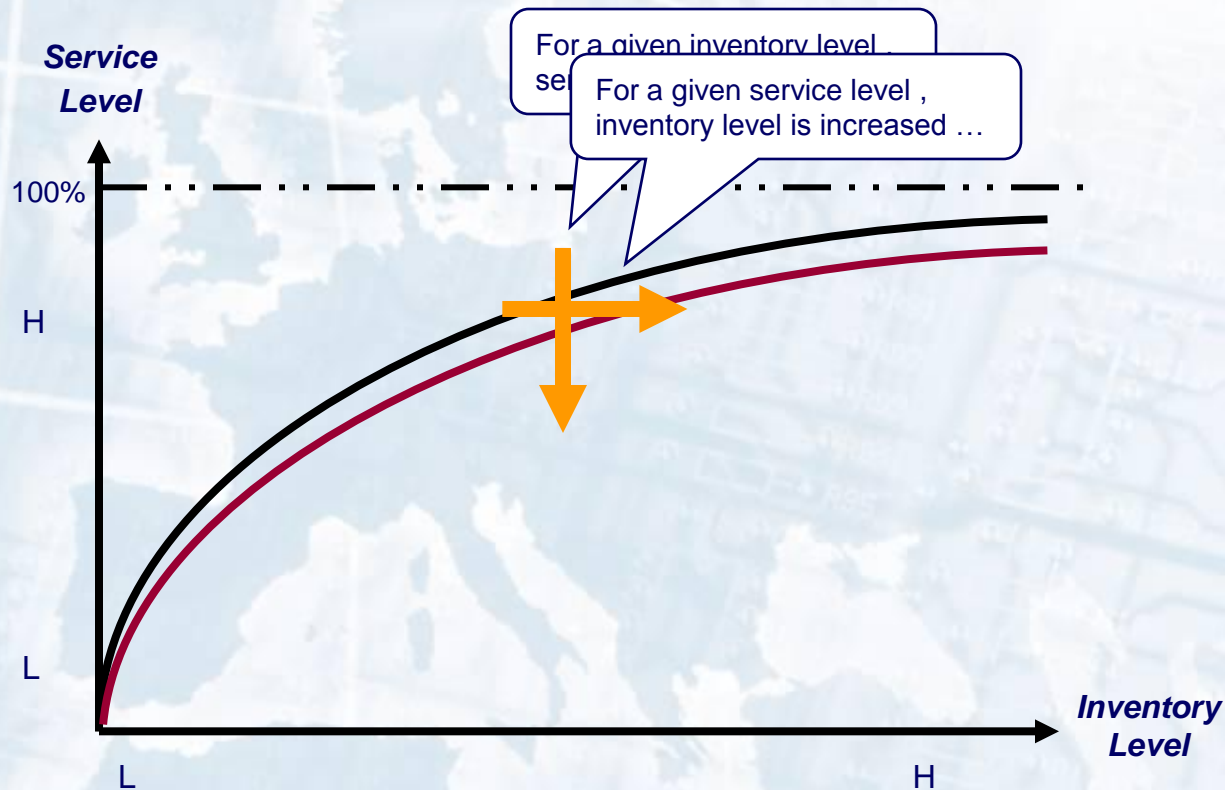
Variability in the automotive industry



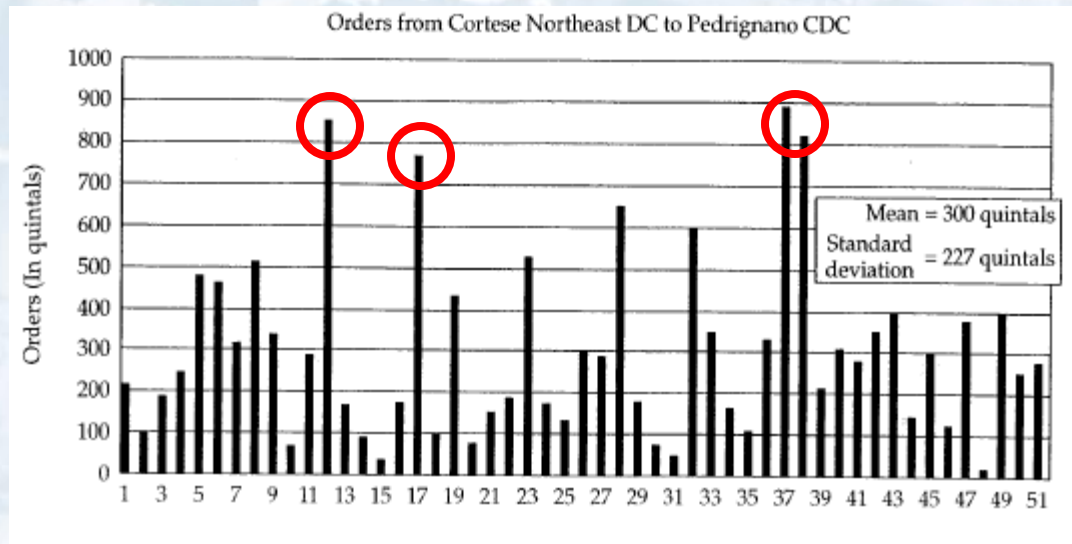
- Demand variability is amplified in the supply chain: upstream echelons face higher variability
- What you see is not what they face



- Increased safety stock
- Reduced service levels



- Increased safety stock
- Reduced service levels
- Inefficient allocation of resources
 - transportation, storage, handling etc.



- Demand forecasting
 - by each stage of the supply chain
 - based on orders from the next
 - without visibility of end-customer demand
 - mistaking behavior for trend



Chinese whispers

- Lead times
 - The longer the forecast horizon the worst is the forecast
- Batch ordering
 - volume discounts
 - transportation discounts
 - sales quotas / incentives
 - invoicing payment terms (e.g. EoM T+30)
- Price fluctuations (e.g. promotions)
 - stock up when prices are low
- Shortage gaming
 - “fair share” logic
 - artificially inflated orders during shortage periods

1. Information sharing

- Visibility of end-customer demand
- Visibility of channel stock
- Supply Chain Collaboration (CPFR)

2. Reducing lead times

- Physical lead times
 - production
 - shipping
- Information lead times
 - order taking/processing (e.g. EDI)
 - forecasting, planning

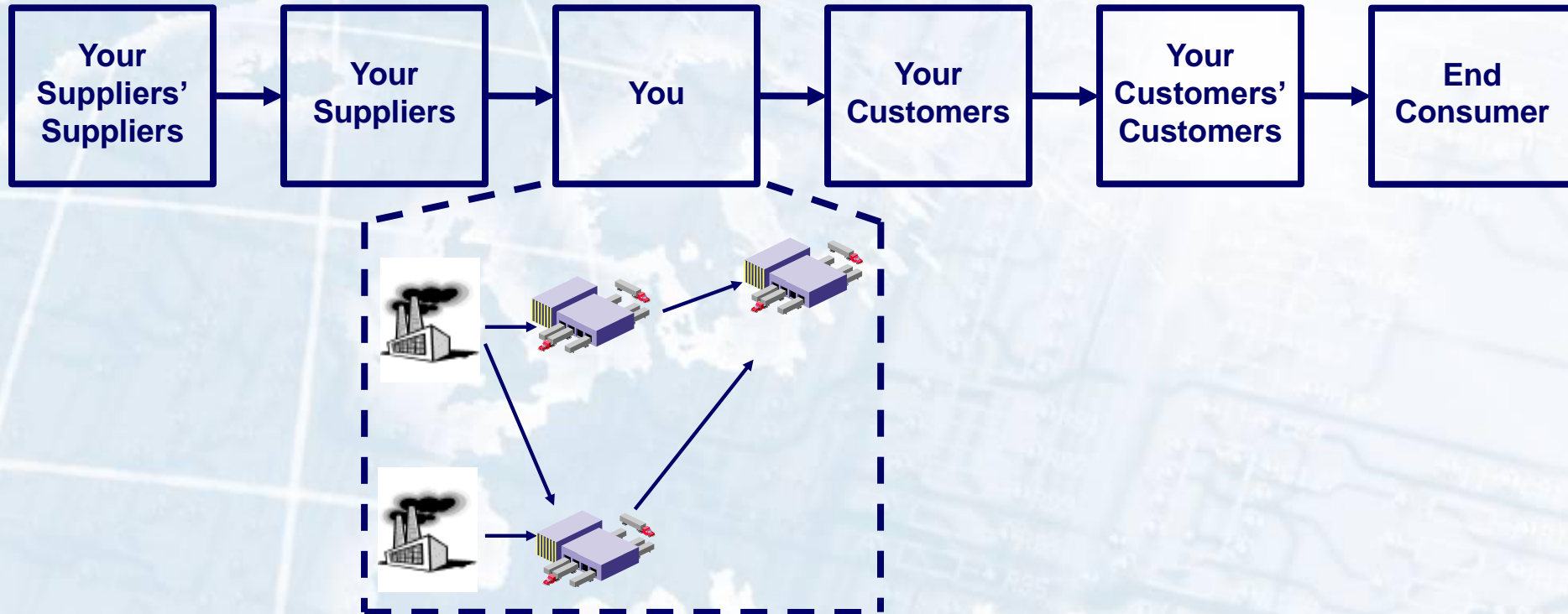
3. Reducing demand variability

- Reduce price promotions (every day low pricing)
- Use moving average sales quotas
- Modify invoice payment terms (e.g. T+30)

4. Strategic partnering

- Change the way information is shared and inventory is managed e.g. Vendor Managed Inventory (VMI)
 - Manufacturer manages its inventory at the distributor based on previously agreed parameters
 - Manufacturer does not rely on orders by the distributor, thus avoiding the bullwhip effect entirely
- Various degrees of sophistication possible

Supply Chain Collaboration



You ability to compete in the market is not only based on your supply chain capabilities, but also on those of your partners!

Questions?

rvdmeulen@trueconomy.com
www.trueconomy.com