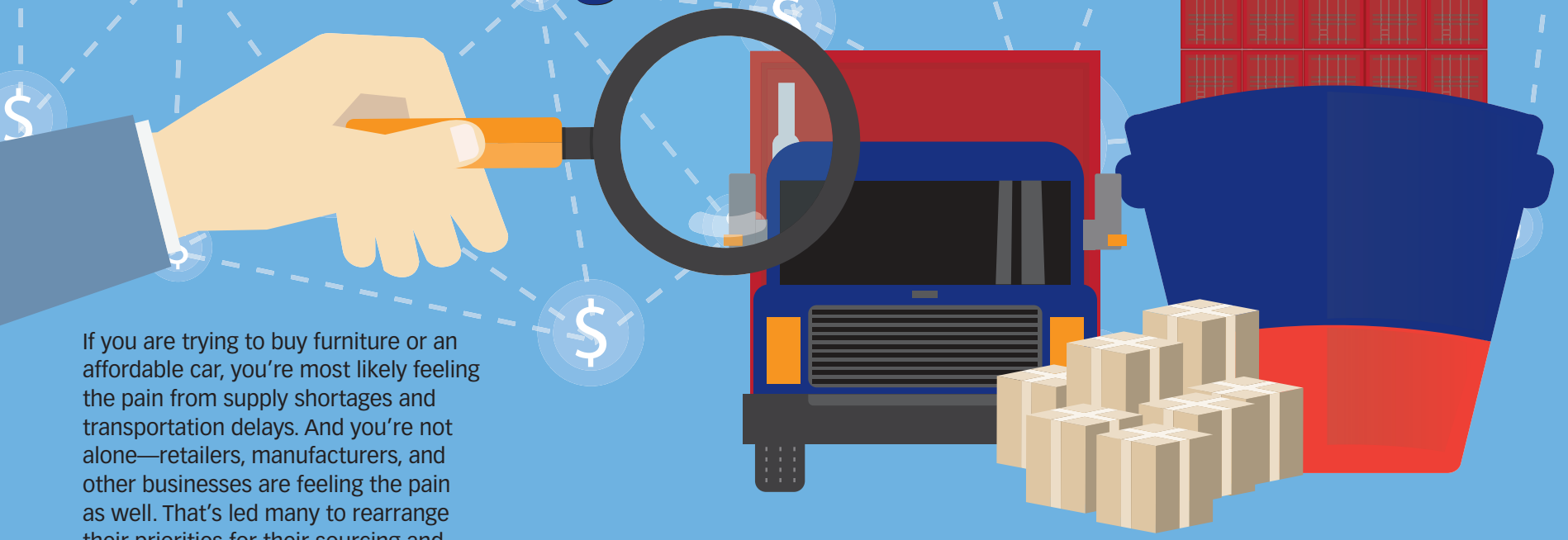


Through the looking glass: the future of sourcing and inbound logistics



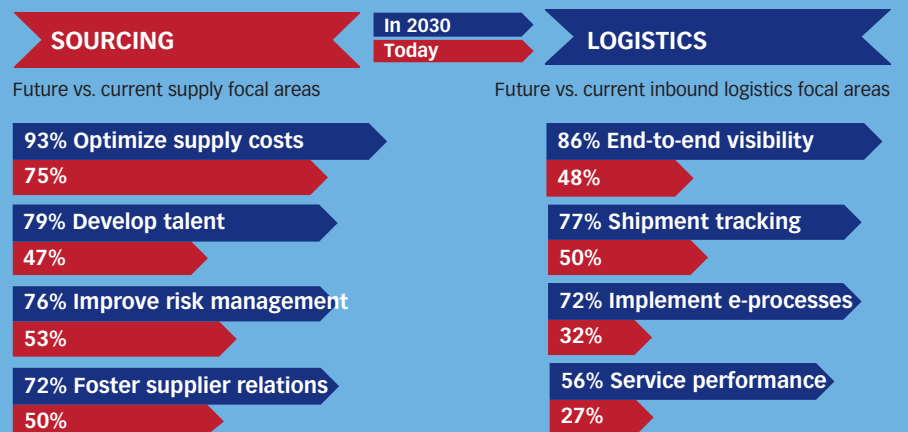
If you are trying to buy furniture or an affordable car, you're most likely feeling the pain from supply shortages and transportation delays. And you're not alone—retailers, manufacturers, and other businesses are feeling the pain as well. That's led many to rearrange their priorities for their sourcing and inbound logistics operations, shifting the focus from controlling costs to ensuring uninterrupted supply.

That shift will likely have lasting effects on these operations, according to a research report released this fall. The latest installment of the multiyear "Logistics 2030" study suggests that the crisis will reshape companies' organizational priorities, tech investment plans, and even talent retention strategies over the decade to come. Here's a look at some of the findings:

A new game plan

Organizations are shifting priorities as they plan for the future. For example, rather than just making decisions based on cost, they're giving more weight to factors like risk mitigation and carrier reliability.

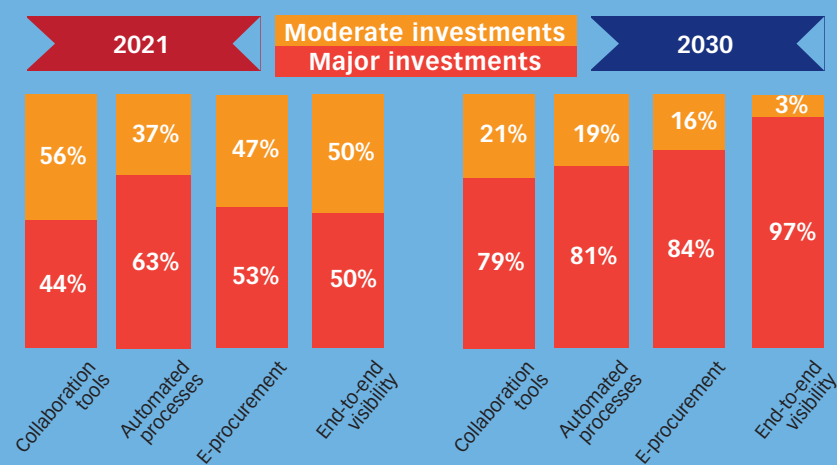
ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES



The need for visibility

The past year's supply chain disruptions have highlighted the need for visibility and agility, driving more and more businesses to invest in technology to streamline their operations.

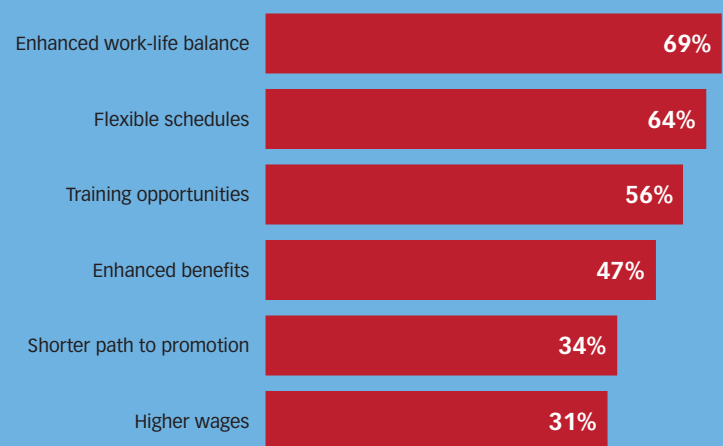
SOURCING TECH INVESTMENT OUTLOOK



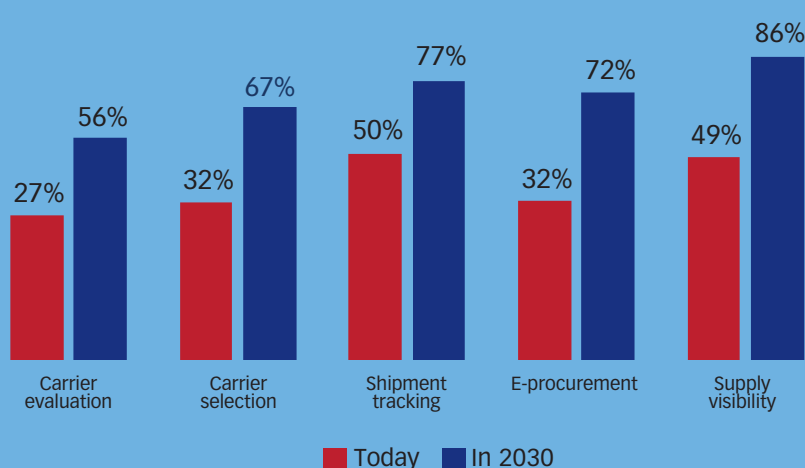
Invest in your people

As competition for supply chain talent heats up, companies are getting creative in their efforts to retain top performers. In addition to sweetening wage and benefit packages, they're increasingly offering workplace accommodations aimed at promoting work/life balance.

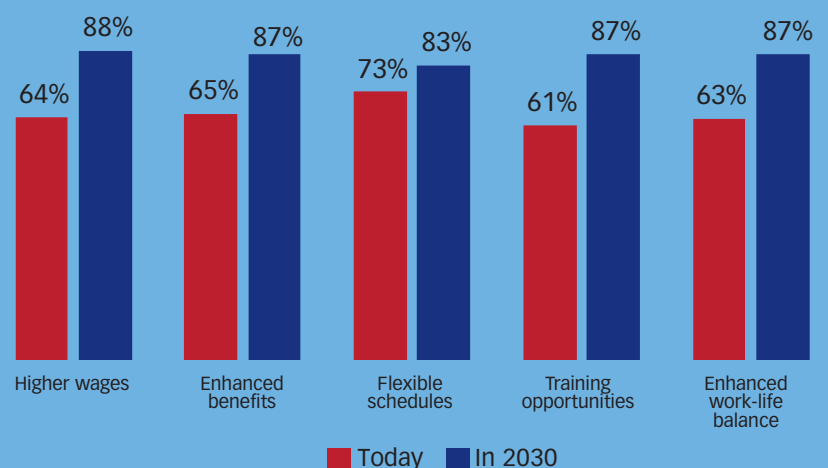
SOURCING RETENTION STRATEGIES



INBOUND LOGISTICS TECH INVESTMENT OUTLOOK



INBOUND LOGISTICS RETENTION STRATEGIES



About the study: The multiyear "Logistics 2030—Navigating a Disruptive Decade" study is being conducted by researchers at Auburn (Alabama) University's Center for Supply Chain Innovation. Each year, it focuses on a different aspect of the supply chain, with this installment homing in on strategic sourcing and inbound logistics. This year's research was based on six focus groups and responses from more than 275 survey participants representing manufacturers, logistics service providers, consultants, and wholesale/distributors. The full report can be purchased on the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals' (CSCMP) website (cscmp.org) for \$25 (the report is free to CSCMP members).