



**PROTECTING CARGO.
PREVENTING LOSS.
SECURING THE
SUPPLY CHAIN.**

A Proactive Security Guide
for Transportation and
Logistics Operations



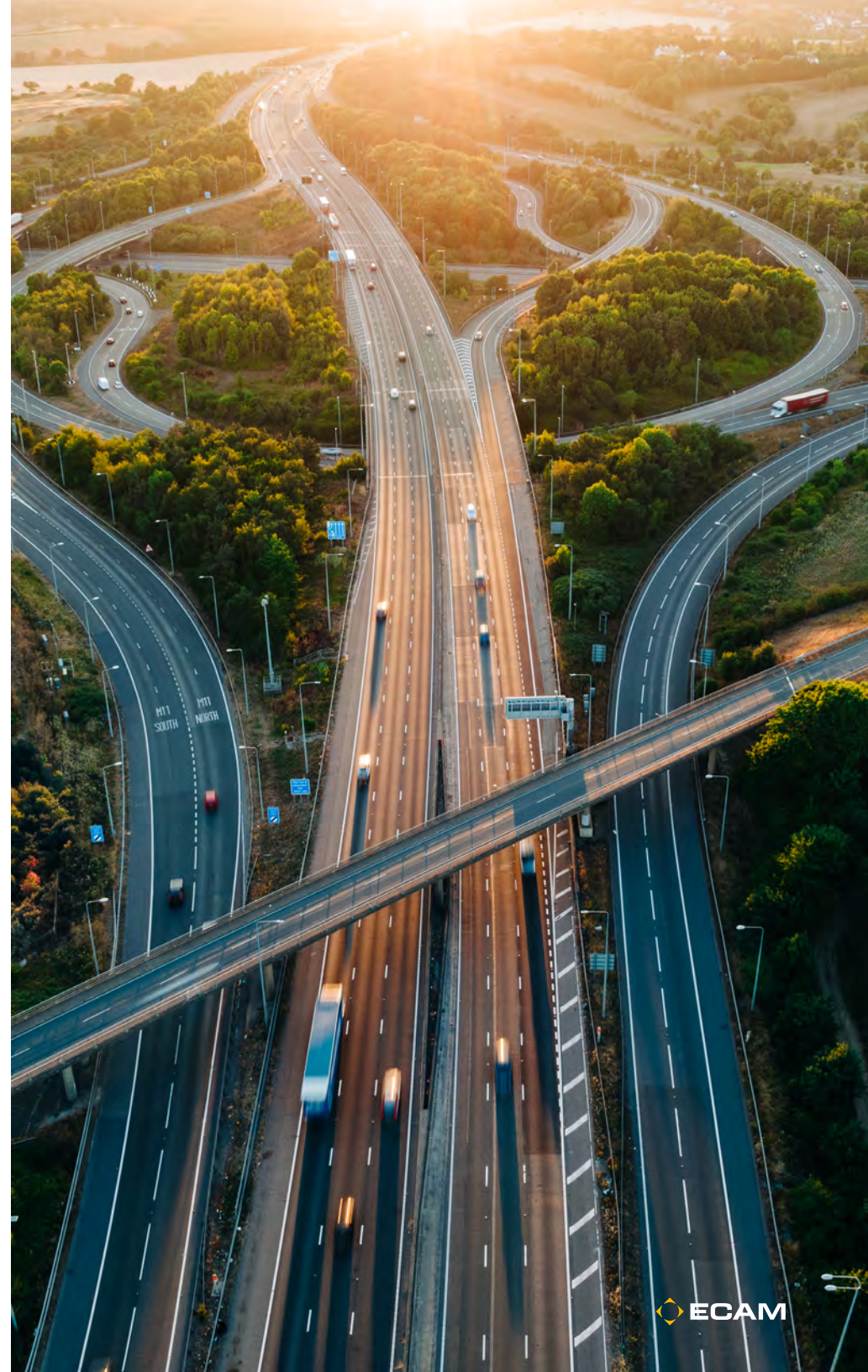
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS?

Transportation and logistics operations are under increasing pressure from organized theft, operational disruption, and growing supply chain complexity. As cargo moves across yards, warehouses, rail terminals, and distribution hubs, every transition point introduces new vulnerabilities that bad actors are actively exploiting.

Unlike traditional property crime, incidents in transportation and logistics are often coordinated, targeted, and financially devastating. A single trailer theft can result in hundreds of thousands, or even millions, in losses while also disrupting operations, damaging customer relationships, and triggering insurance complications across the supply chain.

At the same time, many operators still struggle with fragmented visibility. Cargo may move through multiple facilities, third-party yards, and handoff points without consistent monitoring or real-time situational awareness. These gaps create opportunities for organized theft rings, insider collusion, unauthorized access, and after-hours criminal activity.

This guide explores the evolving risks facing transportation and logistics operators and outlines how proactive monitoring, AI-driven detection, gate management, and real-time response strategies can help reduce loss, improve operational control, and strengthen supply chain security across every critical transition point.



BY THE NUMBERS

\$35B+ CARGO THEFT LOSSES

Estimated worldwide annually

\$200K+ AVG. LOSS

Per cargo theft incident

49% INCREASE IN CARGO THEFT

Across the U.S. since 2024

3K+ THEFT INCIDENTS ANNUALLY

Reported in U.S. and Canada

76% OF THEFTS IN TRANSIT OR YARDS

Where visibility is limited

1/3 OF THEFTS ARE STRATEGIC

Driven by organized tactics

^{*}<https://www.ttclub.com/news-and-resources/news/article/cargo-crime-costs-global-supply-chains-billions/>
^{**}<https://www.verisk.com/company/newsroom/cargo-theft-surges-to-record-levels-in-2024-verisk-cargonet-analysis-reveals/>
^{***}<https://www.verisk.com/company/newsroom/cargo-theft-surges-to-record-levels-in-2024-verisk-cargonet-analysis-reveals/>
^{****}<https://www.over-haul.com/state-of-cargo-theft-report/>
^{*****}<https://www.over-haul.com/reports/united-states-canada-annual-cargo-theft-report-2024>
^{*****}<https://www.supplychainbrain.com/articles/41759-cargo-theft-skyrocketing>



TRANSPORTATION YARDS ARE A HIGH-VALUE TARGET

Transportation and logistics facilities are designed for speed and operational efficiency, but those same characteristics can create significant security exposure. Large yards, constant movement, multiple access points, and fragmented visibility make these environments attractive targets for organized theft and unauthorized activity.

As supply chains become more complex, the consequences of security failures grow more severe. Theft, delays, and operational disruption can impact not only a single facility, but also downstream customers, delivery timelines, insurance costs, and overall business continuity.

VULNERABILITIES

- **Open yards:** Large areas with limited perimeter visibility.
- **Transition points:** Assets sitting idle during handoffs or staging.
- **Fragmented systems:** Multiple tools with limited integration.
- **Remote lots:** Minimal staffing and infrastructure overnight.
- **Gate exposure:** Human-controlled access vulnerable to manipulation.
- **Limited oversight:** Inconsistent monitoring across locations.

THREATS

- **Cargo theft:** Full trailers or high-value goods stolen from yards.
- **Organized crime:** Coordinated theft operations targeting shipments.
- **Insider collusion:** Employees assisting theft activity or staged losses.
- **Unauthorized access:** Intruders entering through perimeter gaps.
- **Rail and yard theft:** Opportunistic theft during idle periods.
- **Operational disruption:** Delays caused by incidents and investigations.

RISKS

- **Financial loss:** Theft incidents reaching hundreds of thousands or more.
- **Supply chain disruption:** Delayed deliveries and operational downtime.
- **Insurance increases:** Higher premiums tied to security posture.
- **Customer impact:** Loss of trust and damaged relationships.
- **Compliance pressure:** Increased reporting and audit requirements.
- **After-hours exposure:** Overnight operations with reduced oversight.

Traditional security approaches often struggle to keep pace with these evolving risks. Static cameras and guard patrols may document incidents after they happen, but they rarely provide the real-time visibility and intervention needed to prevent loss before it occurs.

FIVE SIGNS YOUR T&L SECURITY ISN'T KEEPING UP

Transportation and logistics operators face a very different security challenge than traditional commercial properties. High-value cargo, overnight operations, and multiple transition points create constant exposure. Even with cameras or guards in place, critical gaps can remain.

1. TRAILERS SIT UNMONITORED OVERNIGHT:

- › Idle trailers and drop lots become prime targets when visibility disappears after hours.

2. YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT INCIDENTS UNTIL AFTER THE FACT:

- › If theft is discovered hours later through recorded footage, your system is reactive, not proactive.

3. ACCESS CONTROL RELIES TOO HEAVILY ON PEOPLE:

- › Manual gate processes create opportunities for social engineering, mistakes, or unauthorized entry.

4. YOUR SECURITY TOOLS DON'T WORK TOGETHER:

- › Disconnected systems create blind spots across yards, gates, and operations.

5. LOSS PREVENTION TEAMS ARE OVERWHELMED:

- › When teams spend their time reacting to incidents instead of preventing them, security becomes difficult to scale.

If even one of these gaps feels familiar, it's time to evaluate your transportation and logistics security strategy and identify where visibility and control may be falling short. Consider strengthening your approach with solutions like gate management, AI-driven monitoring, and real-time intervention to reduce loss, improve operational oversight, and protect high-value cargo. At ECAM, we provide scalable solutions designed specifically for transportation and logistics environments.

► CASE STUDY

HOW A MULTINATIONAL LOGISTICS COMPANY SAVED \$10.7M WITH ECAM

THE CHALLENGE

A Fortune 500 logistics company operating a major Los Angeles warehouse facility faced ongoing issues with trespassing, vandalism, loitering, and theft. Traditional guard coverage was costly and limited by line-of-sight visibility, leaving large portions of the facility exposed. The company needed a technology-enabled solution that could improve perimeter protection, response speed, and cost performance.

THE SOLUTION

ECAM implemented a hybrid security solution combining AI-powered surveillance with GardaWorld on-site guarding. The program included:

- Strategic deployment of AI-powered Mobile Surveillance Units.
- Threat detection technology connected to sirens and lights.
- Collaboration between ECAM monitoring specialists and on-site guards.
- Custom MSU configurations including PTZ cameras, thermal imaging, and radar-based video surveillance.

THE RESULTS

- **\$10.7M** in annual savings across sites.
- **\$250,000** average cost savings per site.
- **50%** reduction in manned guard hours.
- **98%** annual cost reduction at entry gates.
- **60%** reduction in overall physical security costs.
- **2,000** successful interventions per month.

KEY TAKEAWAY

By combining surveillance, AI-powered detection, remote monitoring, and guard response, ECAM helped transform a costly, reactive security model into a proactive, scalable strategy that improved protection while significantly reducing operating costs.

SOLUTIONS BUILT FOR TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Transportation and logistics environments require more than standalone cameras or reactive monitoring. Effective security depends on layered visibility, real-time intervention, and flexible solutions that can adapt across yards, gates, warehouses, and transition points.

ECAM helps operators build scalable security strategies designed to reduce loss, improve operational control, and strengthen supply chain visibility.

GATE MANAGEMENT

- › Controls access at critical entry points.
- › Reduces human error and social engineering risk.
- › Supports secure, remote entry verifications.
- › Creates stronger accountability across operations.

PERMANENT SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS

- › Provides continuous coverage across yards and facilities.
- › Supports identification, tracking, and operational visibility.
- › Integrates with existing infrastructure and monitoring workflows.
- › Improves awareness across high-risk zones.

MOBILE SURVEILLANCE UNITS (MSUS)

- › Rapid deployment for overflow yards and temporary sites.
- › Highly visible deterrence for organized theft activity.
- › Ideal for remote or infrastructure-limited environments.
- › Flexible coverage for evolving operational needs.

LIVE VIDEO MONITORING

- › Enables real-time intervention during incidents.
- › Escalates threats before losses occur.
- › Supports law enforcement coordination and rapid response.
- › Helps operators maintain visibility overnight and after hours.

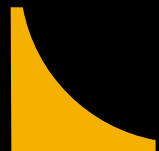
AI-DRIVEN ANALYTICS

- › Detects threats faster while reducing false alarms.
- › Prioritizes real incidents for immediate review.
- › Supports faster response and operational efficiency.
- › Improves visibility across large-scale operations.

HYBRID SECURITY

- › Combines remote monitoring with guard response.
- › Supports both automated and guard-assisted environments.
- › Enhances coverage while reducing guard dependency.
- › Flexible for enterprise and multi-site operations.

By combining proactive monitoring, AI-driven detection, gate management, and scalable surveillance solutions, transportation and logistics operators can move from reactive security to a more intelligent, operationally focused approach that protects cargo, facilities, and supply chain continuity.



CONSIDER THE NUMBERS



Surveillance cameras can reduce thefts
BY UP TO 45%



Sensors, LPR, and real time
monitoring can cut crime
BY UP TO 60%



Surveillance footage helps identify suspects
IN 70% OF THEFT CASES

** <https://zipdo.co/parking-lot-crime-statistics/#sources>

COORDINATED BREAK-IN TARGETS TEXAS DISTRIBUTION CENTER

At approximately 4:00 a.m., ECAM security professionals were alerted to activity at the access gate of a Texas distribution center. Surveillance showed a white pickup with multiple individuals gaining access to the secured parking facility, with one suspect sliding through the gate and opening it for the vehicle. Once inside, the group dispersed and accessed multiple vehicles.

HOW ECAM RESPONDED

- Detected activity at the access gate in real time.
- Verified multiple suspects entering the secured facility.
- Tracked activity as the group moved through the property.
- Supported immediate response during an active theft attempt.

WHY IT MATTERS

Distribution centers are vulnerable when organized groups can breach gates, spread out quickly, and target multiple assets at once. Real-time monitoring helps turn a coordinated break-in from an after-the-fact discovery into an active response event.

WATCH THE INCIDENT



TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS SECURITY CHECKLIST

Creating an effective transportation and logistics security strategy requires more than adding cameras or increasing guard presence. Operators need layered visibility, proactive monitoring, and scalable processes that can adapt across facilities, yards, and supply chain transition points.

1. ASSESS HIGH-RISK TRANSITION POINTS

- ☐ Identify vulnerable handoff and staging areas.
- ☐ Evaluate yard visibility and perimeter exposure.
- ☐ Review overnight operational risks.

2. STRENGTHEN ACCESS CONTROL

- ☐ Secure gates and entry points.
- ☐ Reduce reliance on manual access processes.
- ☐ Improve accountability for vehicle movement.

3. BUILD A LAYERED VISIBILITY STRATEGY

- ☐ Combine fixed cameras, MSUs, and monitoring.
- ☐ Eliminate blind spots across operations.
- ☐ Improve real-time situational awareness.

4. ESTABLISH RESPONSE PROTOCOLS

- ☐ Define escalation procedures for incidents.
- ☐ Implement talk-down and intervention workflows.
- ☐ Coordinate response across guards and operators.

5. MEASURE LOSS PREVENTION ROI

- ☐ Track prevented incidents and operational savings.
- ☐ Support insurance and audit reporting requirements.
- ☐ Quantify the impact of proactive monitoring.

By starting with a clear assessment, deploying the right mix of solutions, and establishing scalable response protocols, transportation and logistics operators can move from reactive security to a more proactive, operationally focused strategy. The result is stronger visibility, reduced loss, and greater control across every critical point in the supply chain.

SUSPECT ARRESTED AFTER BREAKING INTO VEHICLE AT ONTARIO DISTRIBUTION FACILITY

At approximately 1:43 a.m., an ECAM security operator was alerted to activity at an Ontario distribution facility. A closer look showed a trespasser on the property approaching and entering a truck on the south side of the site. The operator contacted local police dispatch, and responding officers arrived within minutes, approached the suspect, and placed them under arrest.

HOW ECAM RESPONDED

- Detected suspicious overnight activity
- Verified the suspect entering a vehicle.
- Contacted local police dispatch.
- Supported rapid response and arrest.

WHY IT MATTERS

For distribution facilities, minutes matter. Live video monitoring helps verify threats as they happen, giving law enforcement actionable information while the incident is still in progress.

WATCH THE INCIDENT



YOUR PATH TO STRONGER SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

Transportation and logistics operations face increasing pressure from organized theft, operational complexity, and growing visibility gaps across the supply chain. As cargo moves between yards, facilities, rail hubs, and distribution points, every transition introduces new opportunities for loss and disruption. Protecting these environments requires more than traditional security measures. It requires real-time visibility, proactive intervention, and scalable operational control.

Effective transportation and logistics security combines layered surveillance, gate management, AI-driven analytics, and live monitoring to reduce exposure across the entire operation. When implemented strategically, these solutions not only help prevent theft and operational disruption, but also improve response times, strengthen accountability, support insurance requirements, and protect long-term business continuity.

TAKE ACTION WITH ECAM:

Protect your cargo, reduce loss, and improve operational visibility with security solutions built specifically for transportation and logistics environments. ECAM provides scalable technology, real-time monitoring, and expert support designed to help operators secure their facilities, yards, and supply chain transition points more effectively.



Get a Custom Security Assessment
for Your Logistics Operations
Visit [ECAM.com](https://www.ecam.com)

