



Brontee Khatemi: A Rising Force in Supply Chain Leadership

Meet [Brontee Khatemi](#), a rising force in supply chain leadership and a standout participant in the [National Industrial Transportation League's](#) Emerging Leader Program. As a Senior Planning Analyst at [Trinity Industries](#), Brontee is committed to driving meaningful change—not just in systems and operations, but also in culture and mindset.

Brontee didn't always envision a career in supply chain management. She graduated with a B.S. in Genetics from Texas A&M University. Initially planning to attend medical school, she discovered along the way that her interests and skills aligned better elsewhere, and began working at a Sylvan Learning Center, where she served as both a teacher and director. It was there she realized her passion for leadership and the operational side of business. This passion led her to pursue an MBA with a concentration in supply chain and operations at Texas A&M University.

During her MBA program, she interned at Ashland Hardware, where she sought out mentorship opportunities and deepened her experience in supply chain processes. Her interest in the field—fueled by a love for science, problem-solving, and systems thinking—made supply chain a natural fit. Upon earning her MBA, she joined Ashland full-time as an import buyer and planner, eventually adding the role of master scheduler, overseeing all production planning for their Mexico plant.

Though not actively job hunting, Brontee was recruited by Trinity Industries, where she has thrived for nearly four years. Over a year ago, she stepped into a management role, leading a team of three planners while continuing her work as a senior planner. In this dual capacity, she excels as both a strategic problem-solver and a dedicated people-developer, helping her team grow in confidence, skill, and career ambition.

Brontee's leadership philosophy centers on empowerment, innovation, and continuous development. "My goal is to remove roadblocks so they can do their best work," she explains. "I push them to think critically and develop solutions, but I'm always there when they need me."

One of her proudest accomplishments at Trinity is overhauling the compliance kickoff process for railcar regulatory checks—a critical initiative she has continuously improved since 2022. Still, it is the growth and collaboration within her team that excites her most. Her high employee engagement scores, particularly on the statement "My manager cares about me as a person," reflect the trust and respect she's earned.

Brontee is also a catalyst for change—encouraging innovation and challenging the mindset of "this is how we've always done it." As a younger woman in a traditionally male-dominated industry, she has learned to lead by listening, building trust, and

offering fresh perspectives. She credits her success to the support of strong leaders at Trinity and her own determination to be taken seriously by consistently delivering results.

As a member of NITL's Emerging Leader Program, Brontee has embraced the opportunity to broaden her industry knowledge. A self-professed politics enthusiast, she regularly attends NITL webinars, including those outside the rail sector, to better understand the broader transportation ecosystem and help her better understand shippers' challenges and perspectives. By reading *Rail Digest* and engaging with industry knowledge outside of her specific role, she brings those insights back to her team, helping them think bigger and contribute more strategically.

Currently living in Lewisville, Texas, Brontee prioritizes a healthy work-life balance. She enjoys spending time with her husband (a fellow Trinity Industries employee), their Standard Poodle and Chihuahua, and her horse, a lifelong passion since childhood.

Brontee Khatemi is more than an operations expert—she is a visionary leader developing people, challenging norms, and shaping the future of supply chain.