# Gillespie's Travel Policy Impact Model for Road Warriors

User's Guide with Research Findings, v1.6



This travel policy impact model helps answer three questions:

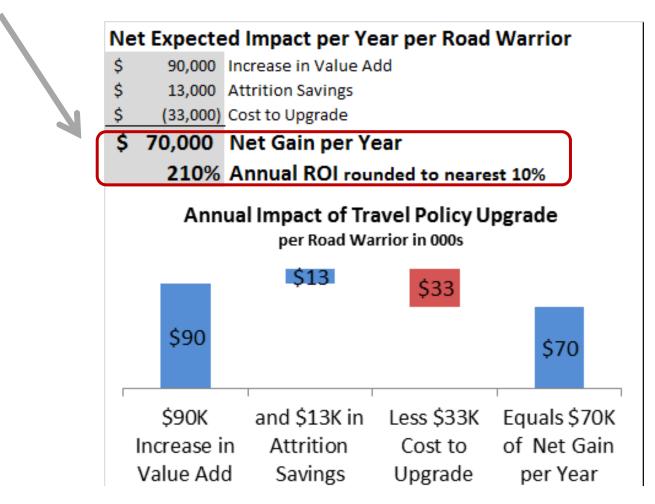
"How much would it **cost** to upgrade our road warriors' travel policies?"

"What **benefits** can we expect in return?"

"Should we upgrade our road warrior's travel policies, or not?"

# An illustrative answer looks like this:

"If we upgrade our travel policy, we can expect an after-cost return of 210%, or about \$70K per year per road warrior"



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# This model uses concepts not typically found in other travel cost models

### Value Add and the Value Add Factor

Value Add is the amount that the average employee adds to their firm's operating profits. It can be estimated by dividing the firm's operating profits by the number of employees.

The Value Add Factor is found by dividing the firm's average Value Add per Employee by the average U.S. Salary. The average Value Add Factor across many industries is about 4, but ranges by firm from 0.5 to 15.5. More information on this metric is included in the Research Findings section of this deck.

**Why does this matter?** Research shows that traveler-focused policies are associated with more worthwhile trips and fewer trips rated not worthwhile. This model lets you estimate by how much a road warrior's value add might change under an upgraded travel policy. The Value Add Factor and its percentage change are the two most important variables in the model.

### **Tenure and Attrition Costs**

Traveler-focused policies are associated with lower interest in new job offers. This model lets you estimate the fully loaded cost of replacing a road warrior, and how much longer the road warriors might stay under the upgraded policy. More information on attrition cost is included in the Research Findings section of this deck.

## The model's three parts and their variables

### Part A Current and New Costs

Sets the average annual air and hotel costs for the average road warrior under the current travel policy, and the expected costs under the upgraded travel policy

### Part B Current and New Benefits

Sets the baseline for current value add, attrition costs and tenure, and their expected improvements from the upgraded travel policy

### Part C Impact and ROI

Shows the key calculated values in dollars and in ROI. Includes a waterfall chart showing the four main outcomes

6 Current cost variables4 Expected cost variables

4 Current benefits variables 2 Expected benefits variables



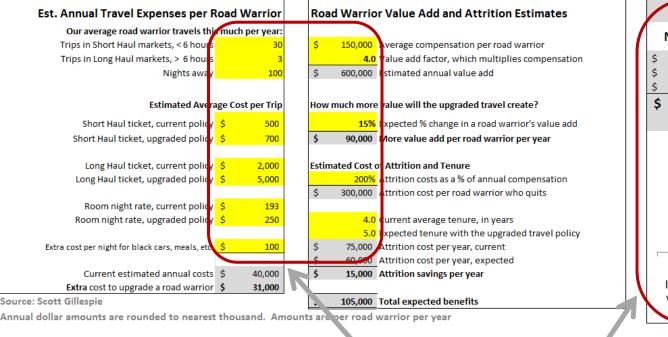
# This model is easy to use

### Gillespie's Travel Policy Impact Model v1.6

Do change the value in any yellow cell Variables
Then see the impact in the gray cells and chart Formulas

### Part A Costs

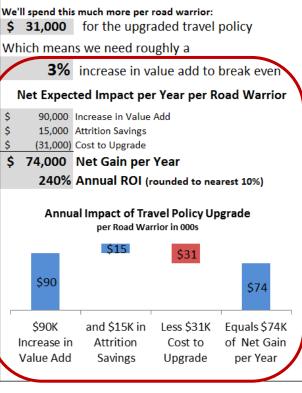
### Part B Benefits



Change any

value in vellow

### Part C Impact



See the impact of your assumptions

# Part A Costs

#### Est. Annual Travel Expenses per Road Warrior Our average road warrior travels this much per year: Trips in Short Haul markets, < 6 hours 30 Trips in Long Haul markets, > 6 hours 3 Nights away 100 Estimated Average Cost per Trip Short Haul ticket, current policy \$ 500 Short Haul ticket, upgraded policy \$ 700 2,000 Long Haul ticket, current policy \$ Long Haul ticket, upgraded policy \$ 5,000 Room night rate, current policy \$ 193 Room night rate, upgraded policy \$ 250 Extra cost per night for black cars, meals, etc. \$ 100 Current estimated annual costs \$ 40,000 Extra cost to upgrade a road warrior \$ 31,000

# **Using Part A**

### Enter values in each yellow cell

Estimate the average annual trip volumes and trip costs in the yellow cells.

Note that the **upgraded** costs under the new travel policy are the ticket or room rate's **total new expected** cost; they are not the incremental cost.

You can allow for higher daily costs for better ground transfers, meals, airport lounges, wifi, etc.

The estimated current cost and the **extra** cost of upgrading will show here **tClara**?

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### Part A Current Costs

The model uses these variables to estimate the current annual cost of a road warrior's air and hotel expenses

### Good sources

Travel data reports, or the travel manager's estimates

Values Needed for Part A Travel Costs	Example
Current average price of a round trip airfare in Short Haul markets (under 6 hours)	\$480
Current average price of a round trip airfare in Long Haul markets (over 6 hours)	\$2,450
Current average room rate booked per night, across all markets	\$150
The average road warrior's number of Short Haul trips per year (in markets under 6 hours)	30
The average road warrior's number of Long Haul trips per year (in markets over 6 hours)	3
The average road warrior's number of nights away per year	90

These values can be easily changed in the model at any time.

### Part A New Costs

The model uses these variables to estimate the **new** annual cost of a road warrior's air and hotel expenses

	Values Needed for Part A Travel Costs	Example
	Average price of a round trip airfare in Short Haul (under 6 hours) markets using the <b>upgraded</b> travel policy	\$700
	Average price of a round trip airfare in Long Haul (over 6 hours) markets using the <b>upgraded</b> travel policy. See Research Findings for context	\$5,000
	Average room rate booked per night, across all markets, using the <b>upgraded</b> travel policy	\$250
	Extra cost per night away for <b>additional</b> <b>allowed</b> expenses, such as wifi, TSA pre Check, airport lounge access, black cars, etc	\$100

Good sources

The travel manager or TMC

These values can be easily changed in the model at any time.

# **Using Part B**

Plug in six important assumptions about your average road warrior in the yellow cells

How much does he/she earn a year?

What's a good multiplier for estimating howmuch value they bring in? For the average employee across ~350 firms in a wide variety of industries, the average is 4.0 to 4.4. It seems reasonable that road warriors add a higher multiple than does the average employee.

How much more value might the road warriors/ create if they are allowed to travel better?

What does HR say is the average fully loaded/ cost to replace a mid or senior executive? Research says it can be 200% of annual compensation.

> What's the average tenure of a road/ warrior today? What might it be under an upgraded travel policy?

# Part B Benefits

#### **Road Warrior Value Add and Attrition Estimates**

- 150,000 Average compensation
  - 4.0 Value add factor, which multiplies compensation
- 600,000 Estimated annual value add

#### How much more value will the upgraded travel create?

- 15% Expected change in value add
- 90,000 More value add per road warrior per year

#### **Estimated Cost of Attrition and Tenure**

\$

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- 100% Attrition costs as a % of annual compensation
- 150,000 Attrition cost per road warrior who quits
  - 4.0 Current average tenure, years
  - 6.0 Expected tenure with the upgraded travel policy
- 38,000 Attrition cost per year, current
- 25,000 Attrition cost per year, expected
- \$ 13,000 Attrition savings per year

\$ 103,000 Total expected benefits

### Part B Benefits

The model uses these variables to estimate the **current** baseline and the **expected** benefits of an upgraded travel policy

	Values Needed for Part B Benefits	Example
Good sources	Average road warrior's annual salary. Research* says the national average is \$150K	\$150,000
Human Resources	Current average road warrior's tenure with the company, in years	4.0
	Estimated fully loaded cost, as percentage of salary, to replace a road warrior. Research* suggests it could be as much as 200% of the annual salary	200%
Travel Budget Owners, HR	<b>Expected</b> tenure under the upgraded travel policy, in years.	6.0
Travel Budget Owners, Finance	Value Add Factor, used to estimate the current annual amount of value added by the average road warrior. See the Research Findings section for more information on this metric	4.0
These values can be easily changed in the model at any time.	<b>Expected Change in Value Add</b> . An estimate of the improved business results gained from taking higher quality, lower friction trips. See the Research Findings section for context in estimating this value	15%

# **Understanding Part C**

Shows the **extra** annual cost per road warrior expected under the upgraded travel policy.

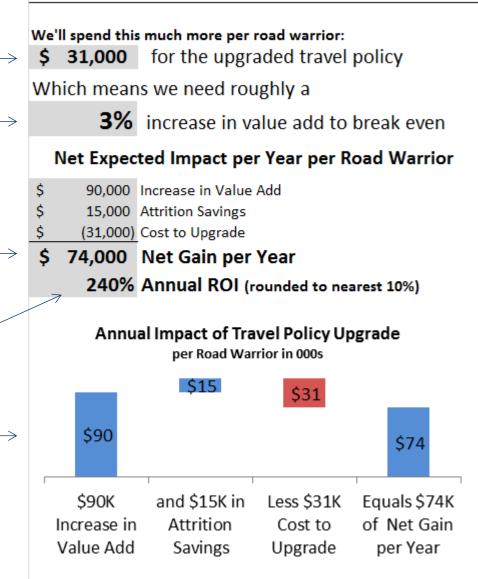
Shows the percentage increase in Value Add needed by the model to generate a **breakeven result**, based on the current values in each of the yellow cells.

The Net Gain (or Net Loss) is the amount of net after-cost financial value expected each year under the upgraded travel policy.

ROI = Net Gain divided by the amount of extra cost shown at the top of Part C,

The values in the gray cells will recalculate whenever a yellow cell's value changes. The new results show in this chart. The chart's values come from the gray cells above it. This is a waterfall chart, meant to be read from left to right.

## Part C Impact



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# Likely Sources of Credible Estimated Values

The model needs values for the variables listed below: **Part A Costs** Trips in Short Haul markets, < 6 hours Trips in Long Haul markets, > 6 hours Nights away Short Haul ticket, current policy Short Haul ticket, upgraded policy Long Haul ticket, upgraded policy Long Haul ticket, upgraded policy Room night rate, current policy Room night rate, upgraded policy Extra cost per night for black cars, meals, etc. **Part B Benefits** Average compensation per road warrior

Value add factor, which multiplies compensation Expected % change in a road warrior's value add Attrition costs as a % of annual compensation Current average tenure, in years Expected tenure with the upgraded travel policy

Travel	Travel Mgmt.	Travel Budget	Finance, Procure-		Road	Airline, Hotel
Manager	Company	Owners	ment	HR	Warriors	Partners
				_		
					tClara	<u>َ</u>

**Research Findings and Estimates** 



What is a reasonable average ticket price (ATP) for an upgraded travel policy? Programs in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile have ATPs of less than \$700 and \$5,000 in their short and long haul markets, respectively

### **Average Round Trip Ticket Prices**

Net of discounts. Excludes taxes and fees

		ort Haul er 6 hours	<b>ng Haul</b> er 6 hours	and Business class cabins
Percentile among ~2,000	99%	\$ 694	\$ 4,990	Very high
corporate travel programs	95%	\$ 599	\$ 4,140	High
P. e 9. e e	<b>90%</b>	\$ 562	\$ 3,816	Fairly high
	50%	\$ 482	\$ 2,980	Average
	<b>10%</b>	\$ 431	\$ 1,640	Very low

Source: ARC data, tClara analysis of over 10 million tickets issued in Q3 2017

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What is a reasonable estimate for the cost of replacing a road warrior?

"Very highly paid jobs and those at the senior or executive levels tend to have disproportionately high turnover costs as a percentage of salary (**up to 213 percent**)"

Center for American Progress, Nov. 12th, 2012 (emphasis added)

Consider these cost components when a road warrior leaves:

Severance pay

Practically irreplaceable skills and relationships

Lost revenue and productivity while the position is open

New-hire and on-boarding expenses (executive search fees can be 30% of salary) Lower revenue, productivity while the new hire gets trained, often 1-2 years Lost revenue, productivity of colleagues needed for training the new hire Negative impact on co-workers' morale

Damages to existing and prospective customer relationships

Ask your HR colleagues who look after recruiting and retention of mid and senior level talent for their estimated fully loaded cost as a percentage of the employee's annual salary



Our approach to estimating the value add factor from public data

Illustrative data	Per Year			
Firm's Gross Revenue	\$5,000 MM			
Minus its Cost of Revenue	(\$3,000) MM			
Equals the Firm's Value Add (Also known as Operating Profit)	\$2,000 MM			
Divided by Number of Employees	10,000			
Equals Value Add per Employee	\$200,000			
Divided by Avg. U.S. Salary	\$45,000			
Equals the Firm's Value Add Factor 4.4				

So this firm's average employee adds 4.4 times the average U.S. salary in operating profit per year

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# So What's a Reasonable Value Add Factor?

tClara analyzed ~350 publicly traded firms across a wide variety of industries

Aerospace, Defense Automotive Advertising Banking, Insurance Consulting, BPO **Consumer Goods** Distribution Food, Beverage Industrial Goods Medical, Healthcare Oil and Energy Pharma and Bio Technology and Others

The overall average is

4.0 to 4.4

excluding the top and bottom **10%** of the ~350 firms

excluding the top and bottom 5% of the ~350 firms

The range across the ~350 firms is between 0.5 and 15.5

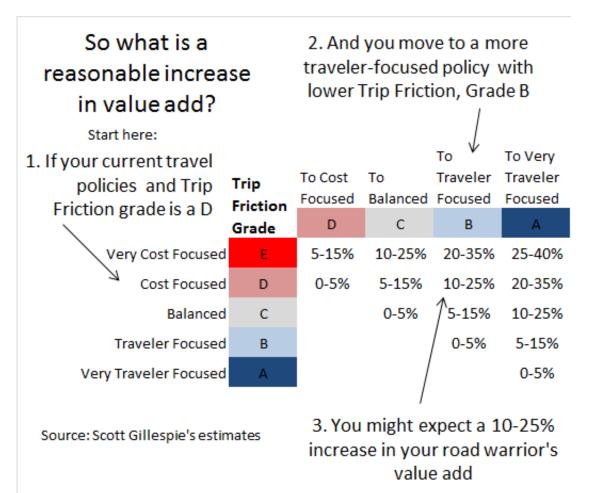
Sources: Yahoo Finance, Google Finance, company websites and their Wikipedia pages. Most financial data was as of Dec. 2016



### So what's a reasonable estimate of the increase in value add?

It depends on how cost-focused your current travel program is today, and how much more traveler-focused the upgraded policy would be.

Here's a suggested matrix to consider...your mileage may vary.



Wondering what your program's current Trip Friction benchmark grade is? tClara can tell you. Visit tClara.com or email scott@tclara.com

# Why Focus On Road Warriors?

~10%
 ~50%
 ~80%
 of all
 of all
 of all
 travel
 travel
 travel
 travelers
 spend
 value-add

Road warriors travel at least 35 nights a year

Source: ARC Data, tClara analysis; value-add is Scott Gillespie's estimate

# **How Does Travel Policy Impact the Value Add?**

Estimated per road warrior per year



Source: scott@tclara.com

Estimated at 4X the average road warrior's compensation

Here's what the annual traveler friction looks like for those in the top 10% of business travelers studied by ARC and tClara in 2015



\*Averaged across 10,564 travelers who each were at or above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for each metric shown above as measured by the ARC 2015 Trip Friction® Benchmark Database, covering 110,000 travelers in 2015

Personal time is defined as all hours outside of 8am to 6pm, Monday through Friday





Sponsored by American Express GBT, ARC and tClara

### How does the type of travel program affect the business, beyond the cost of travel?

Survey of 757 US-based road warriors done in 2016 by MMGY Global

Findings show that the travel program's focus impacts a wide variety of business-related outcomes

Cost-focused travel programs are worse than those focusing on travelers for recruiting, productivity, willingness to travel, and most importantly, the results of the trip

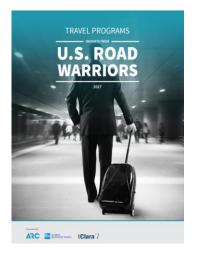
For a copy of this report

Text TCLARA to 22828 or email Scott@tclara.com



Travel policies are very important to road warriors

**84%** of road warriors said they'd be very interested in a job offer from a new company if it had a significantly better travel policy



**83%** of road warriors said the new company's travel policy would be equally important, if not more important, as the new job's responsibilities and pay

### Cost-focused travel programs cause twice as much traveler friction

I sleep much better at home Travel makes it hard to stay healthy I worry re impact on personal life I'm less effective from traveling I get little notice before my trips I feel extra stress before a trip It's hard to keep up with work I occasionally get sick from travel I get afraid during some trips

Source: "Traveler Friction: Insights From U.S. Road Warriors", tClara's analysis

### In Cost-focused programs In Traveler-focused programs 82% 53% 74% 32% 72% 34% 71% 33% 70% 38% 72% 30% 68% 26% 67% 29% 58%

26%

Share of road warriors who

agree or strongly agree

25

# The type of travel policy determines what road warriors want



Top Requests from Road Warriors Managed Under

# **Cost-focused** Policies

- 1. Non-stop flights
- 2. Premium Economy
- 3. Business Class

# More productivity

## **Traveler-focused** Policies

- 1. Paid Time Off
- 2. Work from home
- 3. No-travel weeks

# Recharge, re-engage



# Benefits of Traveler-focused Policies



- 22% More trips are rated "Worthwhile"
- **12% Fewer trips are rated "Not worthwhile"**
- 40% More productivity while traveling
- **39%** Fewer want to travel much less in two years
- **38%** Lower sickness rates
- 40% Report lower stress
- 15% More want to travel significantly more in the next12 months
- 13% Fewer are interested in a new job with a very good travel policy

Road warriors in traveler-focused programs, when compared to road warriors in cost-focused programs. Source: Travel Programs: Insights from U.S. Road Warriors, tClara analysis



### **Scott Gillespie**



Always glad to connect on LinkedIn

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