

International Journal of Production Research

Supply Chain Design: Issues, Challenges, Frameworks and Solutions

A Special Issue for the *International Journal of Production Research*

Guest Editors

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Since the term was first coined in 1982, supply chain management is now recognized as a critical function within firms for improving their strategic and financial performance. Increasingly, researchers and managers now recognize that “one size” does not fit all when it comes to supply chain management. What works well in one setting may not work well in another. Consequently, attention is now being drawn to the topic of supply chain design.

Supply chain design consists of those decisions that influence the investment patterns made by the firm in its various supply chains. These decisions affect the capabilities of the supply chain (i.e., the types of problems that the supply chain can and cannot effectively and efficiently address), the types of relationships that exist between the various partners, performance measurement, and the overall vulnerability of the supply chain. These investments also impact “fit” – how well the supply chain fits with the strategic objectives of the firm and the environment/setting in which the supply chain is deployed. This special issue seeks to publish high quality research that investigates supply chain design, identifies the various critical dimensions of supply chain design, and explores the relationship between supply chain design, the resulting capabilities, corporate/supply chain performance, and the setting in which the resulting supply chain is deployed.

Specifically, this special issue aims to publish a set of papers that will shed greater insights into how supply chain design can help describe, explain, and predict supply chain activities and outcomes at both the corporate and supply chain levels. From the perspective of content, this special issue hopes to solicit a broad spectrum of papers. These papers may be conceptual, empirical, or analytical in nature; they can adopt a domestic or international/comparative focus; and, they can pursue either theory-building or theory-testing. In terms of methodology, papers may be based on empirical techniques (e.g., case, field study, survey, archival research, and so on) or on modeling techniques (e.g., optimization or simulation). Papers that integrate multiple

perspectives, that draw on competitive studies (e.g., Far East versus North America), and/or multiple methodologies are especially encouraged.

Appropriate issues and topics for this special issue include, but are ***not*** limited to:

- Factors affecting supply chain design;
- Impact of supply chain design decisions on performance;
- Impact of the environment (e.g., competition, culture) on supply chain design;
- Design and analysis tools appropriate for supply chain design;
- Supply chain disruptions/risk/resilience and supply chain design;
- Performance measurement and supply chain design; and,
- Supply chain design and the impact of industry on the design.

Manuscripts must be submitted by September 30, 2010 and they must conform to IJPR requirements which can be found at:

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/journal.asp?issn=0020-7543&linktype=44>.

Manuscripts will be double-blind reviewed in accordance with IJPR review procedures.

The guest editors in consultation with the Editor-in-Chief of IJPR will make all final decisions as to the suitability of manuscripts for the special issue.

Submit one hard copy and the manuscript in one file in MS Word format. Papers should be submitted to either guest editor:

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Please do not submit the papers via the online submission and review system.

Please contact either guest editor should you have any questions regarding the special issue or the potential suitability of topics for the issue.