
Introduction

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I am honoured to assume the responsibility of the Executive Editor for this fine journal from the founding Editor, Dr Joel D. Wisner. Dr Wisner has done an amazing job in launching this new journal and published articles written by some of the world's top researchers. Without his determination and relentless pursuit of excellence, this journal would not exist. Thank you! Joel. Joel will remain on the board to provide strategic input for future issues of the journal.

I am very pleased to present the Vol. 2, No. 3, 2006 issue of the journal. The emphasis on supply chain management is increasing around the world, and we are seeing an ever larger number of interesting, thought-provoking and high-quality research projects taking place. Along with this trend, *IJISM* is building a reputation for publishing many of these papers, and we certainly appreciate the many supply chain researchers using *IJISM* as their publishing outlet.

Part of our success is our Editorial Board membership – without them, this journal would simply cease to exist. Our reviewers are able to provide many value-enhancing suggestions to the submitted manuscripts and we have been fortunate enough to find reviewers who can complete reviews quickly, to enable quick turnaround for the authors. Thus, I give the review board a tremendous thank you for a job well done. I also would like to extend my thanks to the Inderscience staff for all of their high-quality and very efficient assistance in the pre-publication process.

This issue has six outstanding papers, covering the topics of the development of a supply chain management program, drivers for improving supply chain management performance, new information technologies in global supply chains, intra- and inter-organisational supply chain coordination, integration and performance in a blood supply network and bundling for B2B procurement. We hope these papers provide guidelines for practitioners and create ideas for further research, and naturally, we hope *IJISM* can continue to be the privileged recipient of these studies.

We welcome research papers on topics within the realm of supply management from all disciplines, including case studies, modelling papers, literature reviews and surveys. We also would like to review papers discussing supply chain management programs at your university along with discussions of the on-going funded research, and the sources of funding. We hope to start including papers of this type with each issue.