
Preface

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Biographical note: H.C.W. Lau is an Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, involved in research and teaching activities. He received his Masters degree from Aston University in Birmingham in 1981 after more than 10 years working in the Hong Kong manufacturing sector. He then obtained his doctorate at the University of Adelaide in 1995 in the study of the architecture of manufacturing information systems. His current research areas cover manufacturing information systems and artificial intelligence applications. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 international research articles covering multi-agent modelling, object technology, global manufacturing and computational intelligence applications.

In this rapidly changing and volatile world, the reliability of logistics operations needs be considered to reduce the cost of reworking. The application of artificial intelligence and data mining technologies can be used to perform an evaluation of the feasibility, by both identifying potential logistics risks and providing guidance for risk reduction.

In this special issue, we try to embrace the latest research and development of intelligent logistics systems that can be used to address the most current issues and challenges and solve associated risks. These include the latest research results and efforts at different levels, including quality assurance, logistics workflow management and intelligent supply chain operations. The articles that have been accepted for publication broadly cover state-of-the-art trends in minimising logistics risk through intelligent systems. In their totality, they are concerned with the implementation of artificial intelligence and data mining approaches that aim to more effectively manage logistics risks in a supply chain network.

Some of the articles concern the interrelationship of risk communication from different perspectives, and some propose models for optimising a resource planning system in a supply chain network at a structural and conceptual level. In summary, this special issue gives an informative overview with different methodologies for reducing risks in supply chain management.