
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Andreas Wald is the Dean of the Faculty and Research and a Professor of Management and Strategy at the European Business School Paris. He is also a Visiting Professor at the Strascheg Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship of the EBS Business School, Germany. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in strategic management and organisation. He has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, books and edited volumes. His work appears in journals such as *Transportation Research Part A*, *Management Decision*, *Schmalenbach Business Review*, *International Journal of Innovation Management*, and *International Journal of Project Management*. His research is currently focused on organisational networks, temporary organisations, innovation, and aviation management.

Jaideep Motwani is the Chair and a Professor of Management at the Seidman College of Business, Grand Valley State University. He has written more than 100 articles in the areas of competitive strategies, inventory management, technology management, ERP, quality management, benchmarking and small business management. These articles appear in journals such as *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management*, *Operations Research*, *Business Horizons*, *Omega*, *Journal of Operational Research Society*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*, *Journal of Small Business Management* and *International Journal of Production Research*. His current research interests are in the areas of ERP, lean systems, market orientation, e-commerce and operations strategy.

We are very pleased to introduce this inaugural issue of the *International Journal of Aviation Management (IJAM)*. Globalisation and the increasing demand for transport in emergent economies lead to a dynamic growth of the aviation industry. On the other hand, it is especially airlines which are constantly facing high competitive pressure. Soaring fuel prices, a high share of fix costs, pressure from environmental groups and regulative authorities, distorted deregulation, consolidation, strong unions, overcapacities in the air and capacity restrictions on the ground are key factors aviation managers have to deal with.

The increasing importance of the air transport sector is reflected by an increase in scientific work on the challenges of this particular industry. *IJAM* offers academics an international forum for analysis and discussion of research in the field of aviation management. Contributions to *IJAM* cover all major actors of the industry: airlines, airports, air traffic control and related organisations. In addition to being an outlet for scholars interested in aviation management, *IJAM* aims at contributing to the exchange of views between theory and practice. Therefore, contributions to *IJAM* are not restricted to original research papers, but also comprise case studies, book reviews, commentaries, and conference notes.

This inaugural issue features eight papers, covering a broad range of topics in aviation management. Paul and Lijesen in their paper, 'Unilateral emission trading and competition between US and EU carriers', analyse the impact of the inclusion of the European aviation sector in the European Emission Allowances Trading System (EU ETS). Applying a Cournot model, they demonstrate how the competitive position of EU airlines is affected by EU ETS.

The regulatory liberalisation in air transportation is the subject of the contribution of Cosmas, Belobaba, and Swelbar. In their paper, 'Framing the discussion on regulatory liberalisation: a stakeholder analysis of Open Skies, ownership and control', they focus on the stage 2 negotiations of US-EU Open Skies. They conduct a stakeholder analysis of foreign ownership restrictions and analyse the impact of liberalisation on the stakeholders.

Chaudhuri investigates the effects of privatisation on airport infrastructure projects. In her article, 'Impact of privatisation on performance of airport infrastructure projects in India: a preliminary study', she focuses on the emerging Indian aviation sector and portrays several important airport development projects such as Mumbai International Airport and Dehli International Airport.

The optimisation of passenger flows on the ground is the subject of the study of Richter, Voß and Wulf. In their article, 'A passenger movement forecast and optimisation system for airport terminals', they apply graph-theoretical methods to develop a model for forecasting and optimising passenger movements in airport terminals.

The article, 'Linking corporate sustainability planning and sustainable development at Brisbane Airport', by Stokes and van der Windt analyses the nexus between corporate sustainability and the development of airports. Pursuing an action research approach, the authors demonstrate how Brisbane Airport generated a new sustainability model and a new master plan.

The contribution of Bruce, 'Decision-making in airline operations: the importance of identifying decision considerations', presents a study on decision-making processes of airline controllers. Using a qualitative approach, he analyses and compares human decision-making processes of controllers in six airline operation control centres.

The article, 'Airports and productivity', by Sharma, Dwivedi, Seth presents a study on the productivity of airports in the Asia-Pacific region. The authors measure airport performance using Data Envelopment Analysis with a data set ranging from 2001 to 2005.

Katarellos and Lagoudis in their article, 'Greek airport capacity utilisation: what about airfreight?' investigate the air cargo market in Greece. Based on an estimation of capacity and traffic demand they analyse the opportunities for Greek airports to attract more air cargo.

We highly appreciate your interest in our new journal and hope that you will find many useful insights and thought-provoking new perspectives.

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