
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Udayan Nandkeolyar is an Associate Professor in the College of Business with interest in the areas of supply chain management and information systems. He received a Bachelor of Technology Degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi in 1975, a Master of Business Management Degree from the Asian Institute of Management, Manila in 1980, and a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Business Management from Penn State University in 1988. Before joining the University of Toledo, he worked in the manufacturing function at Gabriel India Ltd. in Mumbai. In addition to numerous presentations, he has published articles in journals such as *Decision Sciences*, *International Journal of Production Research*, *International Journal of Flexible Manufacturing Systems*, *Omega*, and *Journal of Operations Management*.

1 Introduction: global supply chain management

This special issue explores emerging issues in Global Supply Chain Management and Logistics. The rapid increase in global trade has brought into focus many 'new' issues. Some of these issues are brought out in the selected papers. Issues in global supply chain management and logistics management from Asia, Europe and USA are explored and provide a rich cache of research opportunities.

In this special issue you will find a number of case studies from different countries and markets. You will also find papers that apply new methods to analyse the behaviour of supply chains.

2 International symposia and workshops on global supply chains

Since 2007, the Annual International Symposium and Workshop on Global Supply Chain Management has brought together leading researchers and produced a plethora of papers. The first symposium (2007) was held at the University of Toledo, Toledo, OH, USA, the second (2008) was held at the Busan National University, Busan, South Korea and the third (2009) was held at the PSG Institute of Management, Coimbatore, India. This series of symposia and workshops has brought together researchers and practitioners from USA, India, Japan, Korea, China and Europe. This *International Journal of*

Logistics Systems and Management (IJLSM) special issue is drawn from the academic papers that were presented during the third symposium held from January 7–9, 2009.

3 The papers

This special issue includes eight papers summarised as follows:

- 1 *Case Studies*: Three of the papers are case studies from the logistics, automobile manufacturing and music distribution industries.
- 2 *Empirical Analysis*: Two of the papers study the supply chain practices in two countries to understand the factors that make the chains competitive.
- 3 *Conceptual*: Three of the papers develop models that can be used to analyse the behaviour of entire supply chains or critical parts of it. One of these papers focuses on the use of bio-diesel in a public transportation network.

These papers selected for the special issue of *International Journal of Logistics Systems and Management* (IJLSM) will provide valuable insight to both academicians and practitioners who would like to explore the areas of Global Supply Chain Management. The issue also provides a resource for researchers to identify international partners for future research projects. The Guest Editor appreciates the outstanding efforts of Professors Mark Vonderembse and Gioconda Quesada who provided invaluable assistance in identifying, reviewing and selecting the papers published in this edition. We also thank the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Angappa Gunasekaran, and Inderscience Publishers for continued support. In conclusion, I would express my profound gratitude to all the participants in the 3rd International Symposium and Workshop in Global Supply Chains in Coimbatore, India.