
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Gang Xie received his PhD in Management Science and Engineering from Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, in 2006. He is an Associate Professor at Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences. His research interests are focused in supply chain management, economic forecasting and business intelligence.

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Today, rapid technological developments, organisational changes, increasing competition and demand for efficiency have all brought risk variability. Today's supply chains are exposed to numerous risks, including supply interruption, volatility of demand and natural disasters. For better performance of supply chains, there is a need for supply chain risk management (SCRM). In past decades, researchers have focused on supply chain disruption, and many response measures in emergency management have been presented. However, further investigation is necessary for SCRM in many fields. On 11 March, 2011, a Japanese earthquake occurred without anticipation, causing a supply interruption to spare parts for several automobile manufacturers that lasted for months. Suppliers, manufacturers and retailers within automobile supply chains suffered from huge losses. In particular, due to the current economic recession and financial crisis, people have become more insecure and pay more attention to risk. Risk may mean different things to different people, and risk attitude and behaviour should be considered in SCRM. For a cleaner environment and sustainable development, a low-carbon economy is advocated, though there is still great uncertainty surrounding its establishment. As a result, more tools and methods for SCRM should be developed.

This special issue is intended to publish and disseminate the newest state-of-the-art research on SCRM and its applications. While research in the area of SCRM encompasses a wide range of topics and methodologies, we expect this issue to provide a high-quality snapshot of current and emerging concepts, tools, approaches, issues and trends within the field. Authors are encouraged to submit papers that employ both quantitative and quality research methodologies such as modelling, optimisation, algorithms, simulation, questionnaire surveys, event studies, case studies, etc. addressing the theme of the special issue.

Three papers are accepted for this special issue as follows:

- 'Supply chain risk management: an analysis of sources of risk and mitigation strategies', authored by Richard W. Monroe, Jay M. Teets and P. Richard Martin, analyses the literature on supply chain disruptions for the past ten years to develop a clearer understanding of supply chain risk.
- 'Supply chain structure and risk attitude in the selection of environmentally friendly products', authored by Gang Xie, Ning Zhang and Mao Jiang, investigates the selection of environmentally friendly products (EFPs) with the consideration of the trade-off between risk and return in two supply chain structures: vertical integration and a decentralised setting. A case study of a green supply chain offering household electrical appliances in China is presented to illustrate related issues. The results suggest that risk attitude has a significant impact on the selection of EFPs and a green supply chain with vertical integration achieves better environmental performance than a decentralised one.
- 'Supply chain risks: development of model and empirical evidence', authored by Satyendra Kumar Sharma and Anil Bhat, uses multiple regression analysis to characterise the relationship between supply chain sources and supply chain risk exposure. The results show that three risk sources viz. demand, supply and catastrophic were found to be most critical in Indian automobile supply chain.

This special issue is a result of hard work of the authors and the reviewers. It is a pleasure for us to witness very critical and constructive discussions and reviews. We are grateful for their contribution. The work is supported by the National Natural Science Foundation

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