
Preface

Ming K. Lim and Jose Arturo Garza-Reyes*

Centre for Supply Chain Improvement,
The University of Derby,
Kedleston Road Campus,
Derby, DE22 1GB, UK
E-mail: M.Lim@derby.ac.uk
E-mail: J.Reyes@derby.ac.uk
*Corresponding author

Vikas Kumar

Bristol Business School,
University of the West of England,
Coldharbour Ln, Bristol, BS16 1QY, UK
E-mail: Vikas.Kumar@uwe.ac.uk

Biographical notes: Ming K. Lim is currently Professor of Supply Chain and Logistics Operations and Head of Centre for Supply Chain Improvement at University of Derby, UK. His research interest is in radio-frequency identification technology, agile/lean principles, reconfigurable manufacturing systems/logistics network, multi-agent systems, and heuristic algorithms. He has published in leading journals, such as *EJOR*, *IJPE*, *IJPR*, *ESA*, and *JORS*. He is also an Adjunct Professor at MIT Center of Transportation and Logistics' Global SCALE Center in Malaysia (MISI), Advisory Council and Trustee of Asia Pacific Business Innovation and Technology Management, and board member of IFIP (International Federation for Information Processing) WG5.7.

Jose Arturo Garza-Reyes is a Senior Lecturer in Operations and Supply Chain Management at the Centre for Supply Chain Improvement, Derby Business School, the University of Derby, UK. He has published a number of articles in leading international journals and conferences and two books in the areas of quality management systems and manufacturing performance measurement systems. He is a co-Founder and Editor of the *Int. J. of Supply Chain and Operations Resilience (IJSCOR)*, and has participated as Guest Editor for special issues in various international journals. His research interests include general aspects of operations and manufacturing management, operations and quality improvement, and supply chain improvement.

Vikas Kumar is a Senior Lecturer in Strategy and Operations Management at Bristol Business School, University of the West of England, UK. He has published a book, six book chapters and more than 60 articles in leading international journals and conferences including the *International Journal of Production Research*, *Expert System with Applications*, and *Production Planning & Control*. He is a co-Founder and Editor of the *Int. J. of Supply Chain and Operations Resilience* and serves on the editorial board of around six international journals. His current research interests include supply chain management, process modelling, service innovation, and service operations management.

With great pleasure we would like to present the inaugural issue of a new scholarly journal, *International Journal of Supply Chain and Operations Resilience (IJSCOR)*. This journal is part of Inderscience publishers, and is dedicated to providing a platform for exchanging innovative ideas and sharing practical experiences in managing, improving, and sustaining resilience strategies for supply chains and business operations.

The *International Journal of Supply Chain and Operations Resilience* was founded and envisioned to address the growing needs of supply chains and business operations, which today's uncertain and turbulent environments expose to risks and disruptions that can significantly damage organisations and economies. *IJSCOR*'s mission is to become a voice and provide a research platform for the business and operations management community, addressing the latest research/developments in operations management and supply chain/operations resilience strategies, highlighting theoretical research with practical applications.

The global dimension of *IJSCOR* is emphasised on developing effective strategies, tactics, operational policies and methods to improve the robustness of supply chains and business operations in order to make them less susceptible to external and systematic vulnerabilities. *IJSCOR* intends to provide a vehicle to help professionals, senior executives, academics, researchers, industry consultants, and policy makers working in the fields of supply chain and operations management to disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge and information and to learn from each other's work.

This inaugural issue is devoted to the review of some of the resilience challenges currently faced by organisations as well as the proposal of strategies and methods to address them. In this spirit, the issue comprises five research articles, connected by the main unified theme of *IJSCOR*: supply chain and operations resilience. These articles exemplify the exploration and analysis of challenges and approaches to tackle complex problems to make supply chains and operations more robust and less susceptible to environmental uncertainties.

Many academics, industrialists, scientists, and institutions have contributed to the development of the operations and supply chain management subjects and community. We are very thankful to everybody within that community who supported the idea of creating *IJSCOR*. We are certain that this very first issue will be followed by many others, reporting new developments in the operations management field, and that it will make a good reference material and be of great use for professionals, senior executives, academics, researchers, industry consultants, and policy makers working in the area of supply chain and operations management.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all of the editorial board members for their great support and effort to make *IJSCOR* a high standard dissemination platform of research, without them this issue would not have been possible. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Inderscience's editorial team, who has supported us at every stage of the project. It is our hope that this fine collection of articles will be a valuable resource for operations and supply chain management readers and will stimulate further research into these vibrant subject areas.