

Call for papers

Special issue of Human Systems Management (HSM)

Call for papers for a HSM special issue entitled: “Towards the Transition from Supply Chains to Alliance and Supply Networks: Concepts, Models and Methodologies”

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In response to the fast pace of changes in the business environment, the traditional Supply Chain entity structure is transforming from the simple, sequential-link, single objective format into the multi-nodal, multi-objective, complex, modular, and flexible Supply/Demand Alliance Networks. Embedded in this transition are specific product, process, and resource configuration that ensure an efficient extended and modular enterprise formed by these networks. In the emerging structure, the traditional supply chain management issues such as distribution network configuration, inventory control, supply contracts, distribution strategies, outsourcing and procurement strategies, and customer value become more complex since the system structure must be network-integrated rather than sequentially optimized. Problem solving for such issues has required development of innovative concepts, models and methodologies rooted in the interdisciplinary approaches that recognize the inherent system structure in traditional supply chains, require modeling capabilities at macro and micro levels, and information sharing at all levels.

The motivation behind this effort is to stimulate discussion on the causes, issues, and opportunities that instigate the transformation of the supply chain entity to an alliance and onward to a supply network.

The purpose of this special HSM issue is to promote and disseminate research that meets the above needs for managing complex and global supply/demand networks. It will offer researchers and practitioners most recent concepts, methodologies, and techniques for managing such networks.

Subject coverage

The Guest editor invites original contributions from prospective authors for possible publication in this special issue. Topics of interests dealing with various aspects of supply chain transformation and continual improvement will be considered appropriate for this special issue. Some representative topic categories are offered below, but are not limited to:

Frameworks and Structures:

- Systems thinking as applied to Supply Networks
- Agent architecture for Virtual Alliances
- Product, process, and resource structures' realignment in Virtual Alliances

Design and integration:

- Supply Network design and configuration
 - Warehouse and inventory locations
 - Integrated logistics
 - Secure supply networks
- Product design chain and supply chain design interface
- Integrated physical, logical, and virtual systems
- Design of ERP systems and decision-modeling tools for integrated decision-making

Modeling:

- Macro- and/or Micro-modeling
 - Dynamic Pricing
 - Revenue Management
 - Inventory planning and replenishment

- Integrated product-process-resource modeling
- Conceptual Modeling
 - Conceptual models of complex virtual enterprises utilizing object-oriented paradigms and/or agent architectures
 - Information modeling for complex alliances

Problem-solving techniques/Methodologies:

- Macro- and micro-level algorithms for supply chain optimization

Analysis, Controls, and Metrics:

- Process analysis in alliances
- Work-flow analysis in alliances
- Centralized, decentralized, and autonomous controls
- Measuring the bullwhip effect in supply chain
- Measuring lead-time variability in supply chain

Implementation, execution, and validation:

- Decision Support Systems for supply networks analysis

Notes for Intending Authors

All papers are refereed through a peer review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submitting papers are available in the “Authors Corner” section on www.iospress.nl. Papers

should be submitted to the Guest editor. Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Important Dates

Intent notification – proposal and abstract [preferable, for planning purposes only, but not a requirement: *As soon as possible*

Paper submission by prospective authors: *October 31, 2006*

Communication of results of peer review to authors: *January 15, 2007*

Final manuscript submission: *March 31, 2007*

Anticipated date of Special Issue publication: *Summer 2007*

Editor’s Notes

You should send a copy in an MS Word or PDF file attached to an e-mail to the Guest Editor:

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