This Special Issue is dedicated to the theme of knowledge management (KM) in logistics. In today’s
dynamic competitive environment, logistics management has become increasingly complex and
knowledge-intensive. The globalization of logistics processes, the development of collaborative
logistics partnership, the role of human resources, and the digitalization of logistics processes are only
some of the trends that demonstrate how knowledge is, even more, a strategic resource for
supporting the logistics of the future. Accordingly, the adoption of a knowledge strategy and the
implementation of a knowledge management (KM) approach are becoming crucial for achieving
efficiency in managing logistics processes. From the academic point of view, KM research has grown
rapidly in recent years with several disciplines have studied KM from their own perspectives.
Nevertheless, there are only limited efforts to study KM from an interdisciplinary perspective. This is
the case of the interface between KM and logistics where, despite the increasing interest in studying
KM in logistics, the identification of appropriate methods and approaches still remain a gap in
understanding the role and potential of KM for improving logistics processes.

Aims
The aim of this special issue is to contribute to bridging the gap concerning the role and potential of
KM in improving logistics processes through presenting recent research addressing this
underdeveloped field of study in order to expand the application of both knowledge management
theory and practices.
The special issue is open to papers from both scholars and practitioners adopting different lenses,
using different research methods, analysing different types of organizations, exploring new
application areas of KM in logistics and comparing evidence from different countries.

The state of the art
In today’s dynamic competitive environment, knowledge can be recognized and accepted as a
strategic resource in logistics and supply chain management (SCM) (Autry and Griffis, 2008). The
management of knowledge is increasingly considered a strategic asset for improving the performance
of logistics processes and services. The service industry has recognized the benefits of KM and started
implementing KM measures and strategies (Fugate et al., 2009; Evangelista and Durst, 2015).
Knowledge is a sustainable source of competitive advantage, in an environment where responsiveness
is extremely important such as the logistics and the supply chain (Fugate et al., 2009). The use of
sophisticated and integrated KM systems is considered as essential to support the specific needs of
logistics management. Given the latter, it is not surprising that one can determine a focus on studying
knowledge sharing (Li et al., 2012; Breite and Koskinen, 2014). Despite, the increasing interest in
studying KM in logistics (Fugate et al., 2012), the adoption of KM approaches in logistics has not been
widely investigated and it is still in its infancy (Neumann and Tomé, 2006). There is still a gap in
understanding the role of KM in logistics Moreover, KM research has grown rapidly in recent years
and several disciplines have studied KM from their own perspectives. Nevertheless, there are only
limited efforts to study the interfaces of KM from an interdisciplinary perspective (Evangelista and Durst, 2015). This is the case of the interface between KM and logistics. Consequently, empirical studies are rare and extant literature is dominated by conceptual/theoretical papers (Lee and Song, 2010; Radhika, 2014). To summarize this discussion, a knowing-doing gap in logistics regarding KM seems to be in place (Pfeffer and Sutton, 2000). Cross-country studies are also lacking. As countries are characterized by different business practices, cultures, and logistics systems, the question of interest would be whether these differences do also lead to different KM practices.

Against this background and the important role that logistics play in national and international economies (World Bank, 2014), it would be interesting to investigate how logistics take advantage of KM in order to enhance the efficiency of logistics and the role KM may play to improve logistics processes and support logistics strategies.

Indicative list of anticipated themes:
Some of the topic areas the papers will focus include but are not restricted to the following:

- KM implementation in logistics
- Benefits of KM applications in logistics
- Barriers to KM adoption in logistics
- Cross-country analysis of KM practices in logistics
- Logistics knowledge capabilities development
- KM impact on logistics performance
- KM and big data in logistics
- Knowledge risks in logistics
- Research methods to study KM in logistics

Issue specification

Submission deadline: 30 November 2018

Planned publication date/plan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 July 2017</td>
<td>Invite all authors to submit their papers to the KMRP submission system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 2017</td>
<td>Call for Papers will be closed. Collected papers will be sent to reviewers</td>
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</tbody>
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Maximum length of papers: Max 8,000 words

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Susanne Durst is Associate Professor and Reader at the School of Business at University of Skövde. She is also the leader of the research group knowledge and innovation management (KIM) at the School of Business at University of Skövde. Her research interests include small business management, SME succession/transfers, knowledge management, knowledge risk management and corporate governance. She has been conducting several national and international research projects on knowledge management, SME business transfers, marketing, corporate governance, and innovation management. Before joining academia, she worked in different positions with private enterprises of different industries.

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Pietro Evangelista is Senior Researcher at the Naples Research Institute on Innovation and Services for Development (IRISS) of the Italian National Research Council (CNR). He was awarded a Ph.D. in logistics and supply chain management by Heriot-Watt University (UK). His current scientific interest is focused on ICT and sustainability innovation in the logistics service industry. He is also conducting research on the role of knowledge management in logistics and supply chain. He has held visiting positions at several universities and institutes. Pietro is an Adjunct Professor in logistics and supply chain management at the Lappeenranta University of Technology (Finland). He is a member of the R&D committee of the European Logistics Association (ELA). Pietro assists the EU Commission as an independent expert in the evaluation of project proposals in the field of transport and logistics.