Flexible Operations & Supply Chains

Special issue call for Global Journal of Flexible Systems Management

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Submission deadline: June 15th, 2019

Nowadays, worldwide firms are investing in flexibility to efficiently and effectively adapt to external change (Klassen and Angell, 1998). Supply chain flexibility is widely seen as one major response to the increasing uncertainty and competition in the marketplace (Merschmann and Thonemann, 2011). Such an increasing focus on flexibility applies to both operations and supply chains to respond to evermore-varying customer demands in a timely manner (Moreira and Tjahjono, 2016; Bag and Gupta, 2017).

Concurrently, this clear focus on improving flexibility within operations and along supply chains has led both academics and industry practitioners to come up with various research interests, such as exploring ways to determine the level of inherent Information Technology (IT) flexibility within a firm and, hence, the resulting absolute or relative impact on firm performance (Sushil, 2012; Han et al., 2017), or the execution of IT flexibility for supply chain management. Moreover, it raises key research questions, including do companies that match supply chain flexibility to environmental uncertainty perform better than companies who do not make this match? Moreover, further research is required, given for external integration, customer relationships influence supply chain flexibility (i.e. reaction capability) rather than agility (i.e. reaction time) whereas partnerships with suppliers influence supply chain agility rather than flexibility (Um, 2017; Dubey and Ali, 2014). Therefore, the purpose of this Special Issue is to contribute to these multiple and key areas of research interests.

Topics for this SI may include (but are not limited to):

- Relationships between environmental uncertainty, supply chain flexibility, and firm performance
- Product design changes and supply chain flexibility
- Postponement flexibility
- Logistics flexibility
- Flexibility, efficiency, and controllability
- Route(s) of causality from IT flexibility to firm performance
- Effect(s) of IT flexibility on performance
- Flexible manufacturing systems and energy management
- Role of relationship integration with suppliers/customers in supply chain flexibility development
- Examining relational (and behavioural) factors promoting or hindering flexibility of supply chains
- Improving supply chain flexibility and agility through variety management
- Information Technology (IT) flexibility for supply chain management
- Ambidexterity of IT flexibility for supply chain management

Manuscript Submission:

Prospective authors are encouraged to submit abstracts of their papers to the Guest Editors in advance of actual submission. In preparing and submitting your articles, please follow the author guidelines that can be found on the Global Journal of Flexible Systems Management (JFSM) journal website. All articles should be submitted in English. We strongly suggest that non-native English speakers have their manuscripts proofread prior to submission.

The objective is to provide a knowledge sharing platform for dissemination of research and experiential findings through empirical study, qualitative modelling, amongst other methodology approaches.

References


