

EDITORIAL

JOURNAL OF TRANSPORT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

The Department of Transport and Supply Chain Management at the University of Johannesburg proudly presents to you the fourth edition of this now accredited *Journal of Transport and Supply Chain Management (JTSCM)* publication.

The Journal serves as an independent publication for scientific contributions in the field of transportation and supply chain management, i.e. logistics, operations management, purchasing management, distribution management, warehousing management, transportation (all modes), production planning and related fields.

JTSCM has grown in popularity over the past four years and this year presents to its readers no less than 15 articles from authors world-wide. Ongoing gratitude must be expressed to the international editorial panel and reviewers, without whose dedication the annual publication of the Journal would not be possible.

The Journal continues to seek to align the academic and practical aspects of transportation, logistics and supply chain management and to disseminate information on import issues and recent developments in these fields. *JTSCM* also seeks to provide practical insight and guidance at granular level to the members of these industry sectors as they seek to implement processes and systems that will provide them with strategic and competitive advantages in their respective markets.

This edition of the Journal contributes articles that have been reviewed and revised by the international panel of acknowledged scholars and authors and that add value to the body of knowledge for academics, practitioners and policy makers in transport, logistics and supply chain management, making an impact from any seat on the bus specifically with regard to the following: Outsourcing and third party logistics, humanitarian logistics, airports and the airline industry, pipeline operations, road infrastructure and maintenance, road traffic rules and drivers, road tolling, rail freight transport, branch lines, intermodal freight transport, customer-specific requirements, and supply chain design and management, costs, and collaboration and innovation within retailer supply chains. Views are also given in particular from European, South African, Sub-Saharan African, and developing country perspectives, for example, Ugandan and Zimbabwean.

The various research topics will help the sector to move away from cookie-cutter solutions, by contributing to the development of the fields of transportation, logistics and supply chain management as a deeper understanding of the issues in the sectors is gained by global readers.



Cohesive and integrative studies are presented on current issues in logistics that involve various important social and economic ramifications, as countries globally have faced a couple of years of tremendous economic changes and volatility together with ongoing globalisation.

Organisations continue to require:

- Cost-efficient, accurate, relevant and timely information for good supply chain decision making
- Good partnerships and collaborative relationships, and an ongoing ability of parties to work together
- Communication, alignment, integration, capability and investment improvements in supply chains end-to-end
- Expertise and innovation with respect to international trade, sustainability, risk management, outsourcing and relationship management, leadership and skills development
- The ability to manage trends such as the economic downturn and the challenges that a rapidly changing world presents to supply chains around the world in terms of total landed costs, customer service, and supply chain performance and optimisation.

Successfully addressing these various issues remains a prerequisite for continuous improvement and growth in a competitive market place.

It is with pleasure that we present this fourth issue of the Journal to you in the hope that the articles therein will help to contribute to your knowledge in the above-mentioned arenas.

BEVERLEY KUJAWA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF