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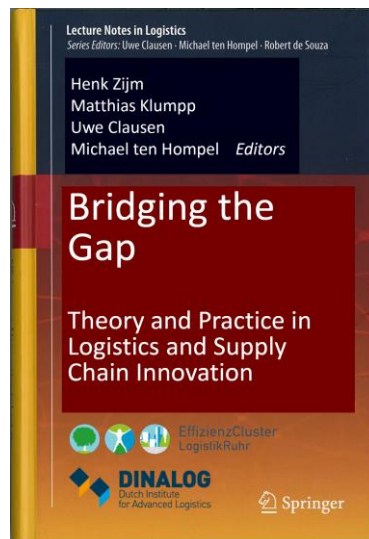
Springer Series

Lecture Notes in Logistics Book

International Research Cluster Call for Contributions

Henk Zijm – Matthias Klumpp – Uwe Clausen – Michael ten Hompel

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## **Bridging the Gap – Logistics Theory and Practice 2015**

Henk Zijm, Matthias Klumpp, Uwe Clausen, Michael ten Hompel

In today's global economies, logistics has been recognized as one of the key factors that determine the competitive position of both individual corporations and industry-based networks. At the same time, the very nature of supply chains and supply networks is changing rapidly, as a result of both technological and social developments. These developments include advances in ICT and industrial automation (sensors, robotics, 3D printing, smart mobility) but also environmental concerns (limited natural resources, carbon emission, congestion) and finally new business models (e.g. e-commerce). To incorporate these new technologies' potential in modern supply chain operations, while at the same time addressing environmental and societal concerns, poses a big challenge to companies, economic clusters and nations. The importance of logistics as an indispensable factor of economic development is also underlined by the annual publication of the World Bank Logistics Performance index.

Innovation in logistics and supply chain management is key to respond to the challenges outlined above. Such innovation requires intensive collaboration of industry and research and education institutes, to translate technological developments into sound business models and to train tomorrow's logistic engineer. For Germany and the Netherlands, the two focal innovation clusters are the *Dinalog* cluster and the *EffizienzCluster LogistikRuhr* and. The editors of this book have ample experience in conducting projects that aim at the implementation of concepts and ideas in the day to day business environment (practicality gap). At the same time, there is a strong need in industry to understand the fundamentals of topics such as sustainable logistics, ICT integration and web-based businesses (theory gap).

From these experiences the basic idea for this edited volume was generated: to present the state of the art advances in logistics theory in different fields as well as providing case studies for successful and promising logistics applications within important innovation areas in modern logistics management as best practice. This book reports on a number of studies carried out (and still ongoing) in the *Dinalog* and *EffizienzCluster LogistikRuhr*, bringing together different perspectives of basic and applied research. Above all, it should serve to inform the broader logistics and supply chain sector what can be achieved by implementing novel and smart innovative ideas and what is needed to make these implementations successful.

### *Call for Contributions*

In order to support this approach of bridging theory and practice in modern logistics, project leaders and researchers from the Dinalog cluster as well as the EffizienzCluster LogistikRuhr are invited to contribute in the form of theory outlines, practical examples and case studies and in particular project reports or comparative education, training and knowledge management documentations within different areas of logistics and supply chain management. In particular, we welcome submissions in which basic theoretical insights are combined with best practice examples.

The topical range of the edition may include the following field without being strictly restricted to them:

- IT and information integration in logistics
- E-commerce and logistics
- Supply chain finance
- Recent trends and developments in logistics
- Sustainability and CSR
- Multi-modal transport and infrastructure
- After sales logistics
- Technical logistics and material handling
- Logistics education, qualification and knowledge management
- Autonomous decisions and simulation in logistics

To streamline the contributions, *one-page abstracts should be submitted until latest April 30, 2014*, whereas complete contributions are expected on ultimately August 31, 2014. Detailed information on the contributions formats will be provided but as a guideline we consider contributions between 8 and 15 pages, single-line typed in Times Roman 12.

Contributions from the Dinalog cluster should be sent to Henk Zijm (w.h.m.zijm@utwente.nl), contributions from the EffizienzCluster LogistikRuhr to Matthias Klumpp (matthias.klumpp@pim.uni-due.de). Each contribution will undergo a thorough three-reviewer and editing process with a planned book release about mid of 2015.