



The 6th P&OM World Conference Open invited tracks

Open track 1: Future of Global Manufacturing Ecosystems

Organizer/Chair: Jan Godsell (Loughborough University, UK)

Track call: As the world seeks a return to ‘normal’ and learn to live with Covid, the notion of ‘normal’ is challenged. This is particularly true, for the global manufacturing supply chains that provide the products and services critical to our lives and the economy. Technology is a critical enabler to this transformation, one that permeates from the highest level of corporate strategy and business model design, to network and operating model design. However, technology alone is not enough, and a broader consideration of the human aspects is critical. This special track looks forward to 2035 and beyond, and considers ‘what is the future for global manufacturing ecosystems?’ Bringing together scholars from across the world, forming a community that could work together to shape the future of our global manufacturing ecosystems.

Systems thinking for improving operations: theory and practice

Organizer/Chair: Ben Clegg (Aston University, UK)

Track call: Systems thinking approaches/methods/modelling are used to investigate and improve complex organizational problems - such as those found in strategic operations management (manufacturing and service). The following types of work are suitable for this track/session: action research and cases studies using systems thinking to investigate human-centered activity systems; deductive, abductive and inductive theorizing for improving systems-under-observation; all types of strategic operations problems; all types of theoretical explanations of systemic practice; soft systems approaches; practical change projects using systems thinking, holistic thinking/modelling for change. Approaches using numerical optimization and simulation are not suitable for this track/session.

Open Track 3: Humanitarian Operations / Logistics

Organizer/Chair: Pavel Albores and Oscar Rodríguez-Espíndola (Aston University, UK)

Track Call: “Humanitarian Operations / Logistics – Different countries in the world are constantly facing the impact of natural and man-made disasters. Operations Management plays a key role in supporting and alleviating the suffering of people affected by these situations. This track is focused on the analysis of the complexity of planning, managing, and supporting decision-making during humanitarian operations using a wide range of methodologies

Open Track 4: Operational Excellence of Utilities

Organizers/Chairs: H. A. Akkermans and W. van der Valk (Tilburg University, The Netherlands); F. Winstra- (Erasmus University, The Netherlands) and Luk van Wassenhove (INSEAD, France)

Track call: Utilities are critical to the security, economic prosperity, and social well-being of a nation. The operations challenges for utilities do not only relate to asset maintenance. While many countries are currently developing plans to revitalize national public infrastructures, the challenges to do so in a timely and cost-effective fashion are substantial. Overall, operations and asset management for utilities has not gathered substantial research interest in terms of empirical studies from an OSCM perspective. *Papers are invited in line with the Call for Papers for this forthcoming Special Issue in the **Journal of Operations Management** available [here](#).*

Open Track 5: Supplier Diversity and Inclusion for Future Operations and Supply Chain Management

Organizer/Chair: Ying Yang (Newcastle University, UK)

Track call: The benefits of supplier diversity and inclusion (SDI) have been increasingly recognised, including improving supply chain resilience and eco-development. Partnering with non-traditional suppliers also provides access to new markets and innovation. However, there is little understanding of enablers and barriers to SDI, business models and supply chain networks that can increase it, and government policies that can further it. This special track welcomes research examining the issue from different perspectives, theoretical approaches, methodologies and contexts. *Papers will have the opportunity to be invited to submit to a forthcoming special issue of the **Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management**.*

Open Track 6: Rethinking Global Manufacturing to catch new Challenges and Trends

Organizer/Chair: Matteo Kalchschmidt (University of Bergamo, Italy)

Track call: The goals of the track are to: a) discuss how the current challenges of climate crisis, materials shortage and geopolitical tensions are impacting global supply chains and global manufacturing; b) understand and bring evidence of which are the new trends in global manufacturing; c) highlight the role of reshoring, and other strategic decisions, in preparing to catch the current and emerging challenges. We welcome contributions that take different methodological perspectives (e.g., case studies, survey, design science, applied ethnography, etc.).