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Biography

Xenophon A. Koufteros is the Jenna & Calvin R. Guest Professor in Business Administration at the Mays Business School at Texas A & M University. He served on many doctoral dissertation committees and taught doctoral level courses in Supply Chain Strategy and Research Methods. He also taught courses in Supply Chain Management and Quantitative Methods for MBA, Executive MBA, and BSBA programs. In 2013 he received the Distinguished Achievement Award from Texas A&M University, specifically for individual student relationships. In 2005 he received the Degree of Difference Award from the Florida Atlantic University National Alumni Association (one of the two most prestigious teaching awards at the University Level). He also received the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award by the College of Business Administration at Florida Atlantic University in 2005 as well as the Faculty Member of the Year Award from the Business College Council at the University of Texas at El Paso during 1996-1997.

He has published widely in journals such as the Decision Sciences Journal, International Journal of Operations and Production Management, International Journal of Production Research, International Journal of Production Economics, Journal of Operations Management, Journal of Organization Design, Journal of Supply Chain Management, and others. He an Associate Editor of Decision Sciences Journal, Journal of Operations Management, Journal of Business Logistics, and Journal of Supply Chain Management and serves on the editorial board of Structural Equation Modeling Journal, Journal of Marketing Channels, and Educational & Psychological Measurement. He works in the area of supply chain integration and studies firms, and their respective practices, around the world with special geographical interests in East Asia, Brazil, Italy, and United States. His recent research interests pertain to the empirical study of supply chain security, disruptions, and risk management. He is the principal investigator of a large scale empirical study that spans the globe.

He received the Best Empirical Paper Award from the Decision Sciences Journal (2004) as well as the Best Associate Editor in 2009 and 2013 from the Journal of Operations Management, and Best Reviewer Award from the Journal of Operations Management in 2004. He received the Best Associate Editor Award in 2011 and an Associate Editor Appreciation Award from the Journal of Supply Chain Management in 2009 and in 2010.

He is a member of the Decision Sciences Institute, the Production & Operations Management Society, and an affiliate member of the Transported Asset Protection Association (TAPA). He is currently serving as Vice President for Marketing and is a member of the executive committee for the Decision Sciences Institute.

Abstract: Supply Chain Security: An Immunological Perspective

Managing a supply chain that spans the globe is a difficult task. It is even more challenging when the supply chain is threatened by a number of factors such as deteriorating economic conditions, supplier failures, terrorism, theft, counterfeit products, natural disasters, drug and people smuggling, etc. Securing the supply chain has to go beyond “policing” the supply chain. Securing the supply chain should include for instance supplier selection, supplier monitoring, and supplier development practices as well as building flexibility and resilience through proper adoption and implementation of strategies and routines.

The efficacy of these strategies and routines is still questioned. In order to ascertain what companies around the world are doing to reduce risk and improve their ability to cope with supply chain security crises and respective disruptions we collected and analyzed data from hundreds of firms operating in United States and Italy. In this seminar I will discuss the findings regarding this study. I will first discuss the ecology and the institutional forces (i.e., government, customers, competitors, peers, public) that pressure firms to enhance their supply chain security, followed by the impact on top management and organizational culture. Subsequently, I will describe the four types of routines that organizations ought to adopt in order to avert and cope with breaches in their supply chain. These routines derive from the human immune system, which is responsible to protect the human body. They include prevention, detection, reaction, and restoration routines. I finally demonstrate the impact of each on performance measures.