BOOK REVIEW

Environmental Issues in Logistics and Manufacturing Series Paulina Golinska (ed).

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For over two decades, environmental consciousness has been playing a growing role in production and logistics. It results in a growing concern among academia and practitioners on the environmental issues. Environmental awareness is driven mainly by the scarcity of natural resources and by more strict legal regulations. Different governments had imposed new regulations for environment protection in number of countries around the world and then, researchers have included these new constraints and objectives functions in their models in order to represent better the new reality. Moreover companies have faced the need to seek for new ways of costs reduction and appropriate products returns management. Planning, developing and controlling of manufacturing processes and technologies should not only support the goal of high productivity but also it should respond to the need of resource and energy conservation and pollution prevention. The modern enterprise policy should look at the relations between economic actions and ecological consequences. EcoProduction is a new business approach which focuses on the most efficient and productive use of raw materials and natural resources in order to minimize footprints on the natural environment.

The EcoProduction Series aims to provide the impulse for new ideas by reporting on the state-of-the-art and motivating for the future development of sustainable manufacturing systems, environmentally conscious operations management and reverse or closed loop logistics. It aims to bring together academic, industry and government personnel from various countries to present and discuss the challenges for implementation of sustainable policy in the field of production and logistics.

Up to now in the series were published monographs on following topics:
- Sustainable Transport,
- Environmental Issues in Supply Chain Management,
- EcoProduction and Logistics,
- Environmental Issues in Automotive Industry,
• Sustainability Appraisal: Quantitative Methods and Mathematical Techniques for Environmental Performance Evaluation.

The first book published in the series entitled: Sustainable Transports by Paulina Golińska and Marcin Hajdul (eds.), aims to present different stakeholders’ viewpoints on sustainability by management of transport activities. It points out how the transport operations organized and conducted in the companies and regions might be consistent with the concept of sustainable development. The scope takes into consideration trade-off relations between actors directly and indirectly involved in transport networks. The authors present innovative approach to eco-friendly organization and coordination of transport processes, as well as management of different transport networks.

In this monograph the emphasis is placed on four main areas:
• shift from traditional transport to a sustainable one,
• collaboration of the models for sustainable transport;
• information systems and information management supporting sustainable transport;
• intermodal transport and models for CO2 reduction.

The scope of book: Environmental Issues in Supply Chain Management by Paulina Golińska and Carlos Andres Romano (eds.), takes into consideration how the emerging environmental regulation might be transformed into business practices. In the individual chapters authors present innovative approach to eco-friendly organization and coordination of logistics processes and supply chain configuration. In this monograph the emphasis is placed on three main areas:
• environment and supply chain operations,
• reverse logistics – example of electronic and electric equipments waste management, this area is devoted to a broad field of reverse logistics. The chapters included in this area are good examples of supply chain best practices in equipment waste recovery and management;
• sustainability issues in sector specific solutions, including quantitative and qualitative studies on the application of environmental management to real life cases.

The above mentioned topics are continued in the next book in the Series, entitled: EcoProduction and Logistics Emerging Trends and Business Practices, edited by P. Golińska. This book presents both emerging theoretical methods, as well as business practices. It might be interesting both for researchers and practitioners. Contributors present and discuss the tools, methods and applications to make manufacturing operations more environmentally friendly and conform to the latest environmental regulations. Case studies are provided to guide readers in areas outside their expertise. In this monograph the emphasis is placed on three main areas:
• sustainability and life cycle management;
• environmental friendly resource management in production;
• information systems and information management supporting sustainability.

Sustainability Appraisal: Quantitative Methods and Mathematical Techniques for Environmental Performance Evaluation by Marina Erechotchoukova, Peter Khaiter, and Paulina Golińska (Eds.) presents the results of the recent studies on sustainability assessment. It provides a reference on the state-of-the-art in sustainability appraisal including the development and application of sustainability indicators, quantitative methods, models and frameworks for the evaluation of organizations’ environmental performance, and eco-efficiency approaches leading to business process re-engineering.

The most recent book in the series deals with Environmental Issues in Automotive Industry (P. Golińska ed.). In this book the focus is placed on a multidisciplinary approach. It presents viewpoints of academic and industry personnel on the challenges for implementation of sustainable policies in the automotive sector. Authors present the result of the theoretical and empirical research related to the following topics: sustainability in automotive industry, tools and methods for greener decision making, recovery of end-of-life vehicles.

Springer Verlag plans to publish in the EcoProduction series about 5–6 titles per annum At present the “call for chapter” is open for the forthcoming titles:
• Logistics Operations and Management for Recycling and Reuse, P. Golińska (Ed.);
• Corporate Social Responsibility in the Manufacturing and Services Sectors, P. Golińska (Ed.);
• Technology Management for Sustainable Production and Logistics, P. Golińska, A. Kawa (Eds.).

The authors and potential volume editors are kindly welcome to contribute for new ideas for topics in this series.