

MODULE CODE:

Reflective ePortfolio



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Introduction

The supply chain is also the backbone of the economy as it ensures that the trade between the countries is appropriate and the business stability is being obtained by the business. I also believe that the supply chain system is the only reason because of why globalisation has created such influence (Craighead et al. 2020). The exchange of cultures and commodities is also one of the greatest examples for which the supply chain is extremely important in businesses. Some of the current practices that I have observed in the supply chain and logistics industry are the development of AI and Automation that reduces human errors and also ensures that strong control is being enforced in the business practices based on which there can be a higher amount of business stability. The Automation has also ensured that the entire operation starting from reading the barcodes to assigning the products at the designated place is totally done by the AI and the robotics. This has further reduced the need for the human in the supply chain systems. While this is a cost-saving advantage for the business, the supply chain has witnessed a sharp decline in the number of employees because of fully automated systems. The technical issues with software and applications can further create challenges in the business and can also ensure that a higher amount of sustainability is being gained.

The supply chain is essential in the business as it provides an understanding of the demand and the supply of the products. This also helps in identifying the different challenges and issues being faced by the operations based on which appropriate responses can be gained. I also feel that ethics is often breached in the supply chain operations where child labour is enforced. Some of the popular businesses such as Zara and H&M have been accused of child labour in the supply chain operations making the entire business extremely unethical (Ogbuke et al. 2022). To reduce this, there have been many laws that are enforced in the legal systems that allow smooth and challenge-free operations of the supply chain.

The following reflection analyses the different weeks of the module and the knowledge that has been obtained through the learning and the knowledge systems. These weeks will be analysing the different principles and the improvements needed in the supply chain by which effectual performance can be gained from the supply chain systems. Lastly, the module reflection will also be used based on which better idea regarding the module can be gained which will also enhance the organizational stability. The supply chain required continuous modifications based on which it can be made more efficient and smooth to operate. Hence, it can also be said that the continuous improvement element of the supply chain systems will also help in enhancing the business and will also reduce the dependencies.

Entry 1 (Weeks 1-2)

The supply chain has changed in the long term and the businesses have adapted in many different ways. Businesses have become quite aware of the recent developments made in the industry so that higher profitability can be obtained. Being in the advanced stage of the supply chain, it is quite important in making certain that industry-ready skills are available in me based on which I can advance my growth and can also ensure to be a good professional in the industry. Moreover, strong leadership skills are also quite essential by which the supply chain improvements can be done. In the future, some of the key skills needed by individuals to manage the operations are supply chain analytics based on which certain areas of the supply chain can be predicted. This will also be shedding light on the demand and the supply based on which appropriate responses can be gained by the business. The advanced technology also ensures that a higher amount of stability is being maintained. The data analytics will also be in a form about the outsourced products and their feasibility in the supply chain (Seyedan and Mafakheri 2020). This is one of the most effective ways by which there can be a higher amount of organizational stability in the business. Optimisation of the supply chain is also needed with the current trends coming towards the supply chain operations. Newer changes such as AI and robotics can help the business save time and cost at the same time which would affect the profit-making of the business.

This will further be affecting the sustainability of the supply chain operations making it more précised and efficient. Risk management capabilities should also be developed in the supply chain operations so that the threats and challenges can be eliminated by the business in an effective way. There are many risks associated with the supply chain such as failure of the equipment and even failure of the suppliers to provide the materials on time. Managing the risk in these areas can be beneficial for the business based on which the business development can be quite effective. Collaboration and communication with the teams of the supply chain are also important based on which the operational efficiency can further be improved. There should be regular meetings regarding the cost and the budget that will help the individuals in maintaining better sustainability. The regular meetings also help in understanding the issues and challenges being faced by the employees based on which there can be a huge amount of development (Gurtu and Johny 2021). Collaboration skills are also mandatory in supply chain operations as there are not of activities that need to be taken care of by the associates. Some of the skills needed by the individuals are machine learning ring and expertise in Ai so that technological factors can be handled properly. Moreover, soft skill training is also quite important for the individuals based on which they can achieve certain skills and can also ensure that total control of the operations is being done.

Entry 2 (Weeks 3-5)

The supply chain industry is quite robust and needs constant development which makes the operations even more effective and sustainable. This is also one of the most effective ways based on which business development can be quite effective. To maintain low cost, fast response time and high service level, it is important for businesses to have effective demand forecasting. I believe demand forecasting is helpful for the business based on which they can save a lot of cost and inventory as well. The demand assessment is done based on the previous history of the orders and the quantity produced. This further helps in reducing the chances of overproduction for which the business stability can also be quite better (Feizabadi 2022). Demand forecasting will help in manufacturing the quantity needed by the business and reducing inventory costs.

Agile manufacturing can also be one of the best ways by which the wastage of the resources can be voided which will be helpful in saving the cost of the business. Agile manufacturing believes in the completion of the phase of a specific project. Once the specific activity has been improved, then the teams move to the next phase of the project. This way the resources are fully utilised and last-moment changes are averted which is sure to consume even more resources (Kumar et al. 2020). The waterfall method is being used by many different supply chain operations. Manufacturing in phases will help in reducing the cost and will only manufacture when there is a need.

I further believe that sourcing the products locally helps in reducing the cost as there are lesser taxes and import charges being paid. Locally sourced products can also be returned immediately and new products can also be gained in a few moments making the operations safer by reducing the delay (Kovács and Falagara Sigala 2021). Delay in the supply chain can cause damage to a large amount of capital as equipment and machinery has a fixed cost which will not reduce despite delays and waiting in the manufacturing process.

Continuous improvement is also a factor that can be managed based on which the areas of improvement can be assessed. The supply chain has many divisions hence, each and every specific area should be assessed by the business so that improvements can be managed and the productivity of the supply chain systems can be greatly improved (Vinodh et al. 2021). Improving relations with the people of the supply chain systems can also be helpful based on which there can be a huge amount of stability in the operations. Enhanced relations with the suppliers will be helpful in sourcing the products at a lot cheaper cost based on which better stability can be gained by the business. The suppliers are the main component of the supply chain system as they are the individuals providing the raw materials for the manufacturing process of the business. Hence, it is important to entertain them and keep them satisfied. Frequently changing the suppliers can also create differences in the qualities hampering the final built quality of the product.

Entry 3 (Weeks 6-8)

For an organisation to meet its needs, in my opinion, the organisation would do well to first examine its needs or wants. Which in my opinion could be different things such as services, products, software, equipment, and many others. So if an organisation knows its needs I think it can usually achieve or fulfil those needs very easily (Agyabeng-Mensah *et al.*, 2020). A specific time should be fixed when an organisation starts shopping to fill its needs. In my opinion, Organisations should follow a variety of steps in determining a specific time. For example, Organisations analyse their time well for specific purchases and find a specific time through that analysis. So according to me keeping all these things in mind an organisation will find the right time to make any purchase and find out the main purpose of that purchase (Mokhtar *et al.*, 2019). But in my opinion, it is generally understood that along with its advantages, it has some disadvantages. For example, when an organisation analyses a particular period, the analysis may not be good, so the organisation has to face the issue differently at different times. Apart from this, it is also known that in the latter case, various steps are to be taken so that the organisation can better fix its specific timing in terms of purchasing.

Tim Jenkins, managing director at WillSpinner Consulting, says that buying and selling is usually done with each other. From this management, I generally understand that salesmen have a special advantage over buying sales. For example, great salespeople use different methods to meet customers and adapt to them like chameleons. Sellers have many advantages over customers, such as when a salesperson chooses his or her product, they learn about the customer in a variety of ways (Utami *et al.*, 2019). When buyers ask sellers to buy their products, salespeople get to know about buyers in different ways such as online platforms and so on. For example, sellers can use all these online platforms like Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Google to know about the biodata of buyers. They can even learn about the likes and dislikes of the customers in this biodata, thus helping salespeople to specifically sell their products. A few things happened to me through this week that are very consistent with this week. There have been several times in my life where salespeople have tricked me in many different ways. I will do different things to make sure I have more power in future negotiations and purchasing decisions. Just as the seller checks the ID and personal details of the buyers, as a buyer I will also check the personal details of the sellers and then I try to collect their products.

Another of the things covered in this week is the relationship between supply networks. But to me, a business relationship is a relationship that forms a very good mutual understanding between the supplier and the buyer (Sulaeman *et al.*, 2019)). That relationship will have a chapter of trust and communication so trusting each other and communicating with each other is very important. So in my opinion, If such a relationship does happen, If such a relationship is made then I will try to move towards that relationship.

Entry 4 (Weeks 10-12)

I usually work for a clothing company and in analysing the vision for that clothing company I say that I will usually focus on various aspects of making the business successful. For example, I will try to find out what the condition of the clothing market is now and what is the demand. In the development of the clothing industry, various types of new technologies should be used through which various activities become very easy.

In this scenario, the clothing industry usually can't beat the real thing. Because when the clothing industry uses different types of new technology and equipment, other companies that are there also use those different types of technology, so competitiveness is created. So in my opinion, to fix this problem, I will use a pricing strategy in my company that will allow me to launch my company's product in the market at a very reasonable price that other companies can not do (Anca 2019). Chances of clone products increase from time to time in the clothing industry and clone products of all companies are available in the market which are sold at very reasonable prices and low prices. I will use technology in my company to avoid creating any clone products such as the company's original tag, QR code, and many others.

According to this week's study, I will generally be able to use the value chain of porters in different ways. For example, this Porter's chain can help me specifically focus on customers. I will play a special role in growing the company by knowing what the customer's needs are and what the customer's feedback is on the product. Then I also can use Porter's value chain in communication. Through Porter's value chain, I can usually do technology development like these technologies related to managing and processing information. There are several flaws in this Porter's value chain (Monczka *et al.*, 2020). To reduce these errors I will take care of various things. For example, where there is a particular error in supply, I will usually build a good relationship with the supplier to correct the error so that the error in supply is not completed.

Different organisations see a variety of emerging factors that play a particularly important role in the supply chain. As supply agility is a particularly important emerging factor that plays an important role in supply chain management (Mubarik *et al.*, 2021). One of the emerging factors is customer demand for real-time data and visibility. With real-time data and visibility into customer demand, I am able to increase the performance of my organisation. I wanted to be able to make the management of the company's supplies better and more beautiful through all these types of emergency factors.

Module Critical Reflection

In the first week, I wrote about the different strategies and how they fit into the future of global supply chain networks. Alongside this, I have mentioned here what this means in terms of my own role. I also write here what my current role will look like five years from now, as the business landscape is changing as companies typically outsource less and less. In the second week, Principles of Demand Management and Planning cover various types of powers. Where I write about the different strategies I like to stock, order, and many others. I also mention that if I work in a market where tastes change, I'll find the forecast generally reliable, and I'll probably be able to stock up on customers for a quick process. A level facility design was drawn in week number three. Here I have mentioned where inventory should be kept. In supply chain management, inventory plays a vital role in providing products to the customer on time (Modgil *et al.*, 2022). Apart from that, I have also thoroughly discussed here which of these options I find most appealing. A problem with the management concept pointed out by the objective of week four is local optimisation. In week five, A Responsive, robust, and resilient supply chain A dystopian novel in which a perfect storm of global supply chain disruption is experienced Where I have been asked if I have ever been to Mega City and many others. I have to write about a make-or-buy decision in week 6. In my opinion, organisations must first find their needs and, after finding them, take steps to fill those needs.

Then I say that when a particular need is identified, the organisation has to find the right time at which it can buy as needed. I also write about what went well and what went wrong with my collection in mind. Then, in Week Seven's specification of negotiation skills and portfolio analysis, I write about how sellers take advantage of buyers. Besides this, I also wrote this week that I have also fallen victim to commercial tactics several times in research presentations this week. In week 8, I usually report here about buyer and supplier relationships. Where I usually write about what makes a good relationship. Later in week 10, I analyse a scenario for my favourite business regarding supply chain strategy. Here, I usually write about the clothing business and the different steps involved in it. Where I have mentioned two scenarios for my preferred business. In week number 11, in the case of the preparation of the value chain, I write here how I can use Porter's value chain. Next to this, I write down the various solutions that I have used here to overcome the errors. I have explained this week how I specifically focus on consumers through Potter's chain value. Lastly, in week 12, I usually write here about emergency factors that apply to supply management and logistics. As such, there are various key factors that play a particularly important role in supply chain management.

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