



Newsletter

➤ The Inaugural Issue of *SRC Newsletter*

Shipping has evolved from its original relationships with ships and seaborne trade to transporting cargoes between two geographical points. Shipping is a “global industry” and is closely related with international trade. Shipping management involves a network consisting of ship owners, terminal operators, carriers, and traders.

Establishing the Shipping Research Centre (SRC) is timely and important to address both the theoretical and practical issues associated with managing shipping activities in today’s dynamic and complex business world. The objective of the SRC is to promote best practices in shipping and improve the management of shipping and related activities. The SRC also aims to strengthen the theoretical base of decision making in shipping and logistics management.

The SRC is a multi-disciplinary unit comprising of a group of active researchers with diverse and profound expertise in shipping and logistics management. The SRC serves as an agent to facilitate collaboration between academic researchers and industrial practitioners to generate and disseminate information on possible solutions to the industry’s problems, to develop new business models, and to promote the adoption of innovative management in the shipping and related industries.

SRC Newsletter is a communication medium to disseminate information on SRC activities.

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➤ ***IJSTL* Secured Maiden Impact Factor**

The *International Journal of Shipping and Transport Logistics (IJSTL)* was launched by SRC members in 2009 with the aim of providing an international research forum on shipping and transport logistics. *IJSTL* is dedicated to publishing original, high-quality, and methodologically rigorous research papers that address significant management issues pertinent to shipping and transport logistics.

The recently released ISI Journal Citation Reports (JCR) by Thomson Reuters reported that *IJSTL* secured an impact factor of 1.00. It is an accomplishment for a nascent journal to become an SSCI (Social Sciences Citation Index) journal in such a short period of time and to have attained a relatively high impact factor in the maiden round of compilation of the measure.

Sample papers are available from the journal home page:

<http://www.inderscience.com/ijstl>



➤ **Research Project: Green Gauge for Shipping Industry**

Global shipping firms are responding to environmental concerns about resource depletion and CO2 emissions by embracing green shipping practices (GSP). Since Hong Kong is a pillar of the international shipping chain, cost and service advantages could be created here. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is contributing to the stock of knowledge about GSP by investigating environmental impacts, and determining the various stakeholder forces that affect the industry.

SRC members, in response to growing environmental concerns about the industry, are now researching the different stakeholder forces that shape maritime trade.

The study will help to determine whether adopting environmental practices is in the overall interests of shipping companies' economic and environmental performance and management. The research will also assist in identifying specific green practices that contribute to improved performance and would be worthwhile to adopt.

The information above is extracted from *Asia Research News 2011*

http://www.researchsea.com/client/whats_new.php



➤ **Consultancy on SCS for the Import and Export Industry**

SRC members have secured a \$1 million consultancy project, entitled “Production of Specification of Competency Standards for the Import and Export Industry” from the HKSAR Government.

To ensure sustainable manpower development in the changing world, the HKSAR Government launched a cross-sectoral “Qualifications Framework” covering qualifications granted by academic, vocational, and continuing education institutions. To identify the specific outcomes signified by each level of a qualification, each industry is to develop its own “Specification of Competency Standards (SCS)”.

This consultancy project will contribute towards setting the SCS for Hong Kong’s Import and Export industry. The standards will serve as industry benchmarks for the skills, knowledge, and attributes required to perform a job at a given level.



Dr Venus Lun, Professor Edwin Cheng, Dr Kee-hung Lai, and Dr Christina Wong won the Multi-departmental Participation Award for the project entitled “Professional Production of SCS for the Import and Export Industry”.

➤ **Book Series: *Container Transport Management & Business of Shipping***

The trend in shipping business is moving towards a strategic focus. As the industry has become more complex and dynamic, there is a need to acquire knowledge on a broad spectrum of issues and concepts that affect shipping activities. SRC members have launched a book series with a view to consolidate knowledge in the field of shipping and transport logistics. Against the background of a global business environment, this book series aims to examine the core elements in shipping and transport logistics, as well as to discuss the strategic and operational issues in the industry.

Two volumes of the book series were published in 2009 and 2010, respectively:

Container Transport Management (2009)

ISBN (Print): 0-907776-40-X

ISBN (Online): 0-907776-41-8

<http://www.inderscience.com/browse/book.php?journalID=1011>

Business of Shipping (2010)

ISBN (Print): 0-907776-51-5

ISBN (Online): 0-907776-52-3

<http://www.inderscience.com/browse/book.php?journalID=1020>

➤ **Recently Published Book: *Shipping and Logistics Management***

SRC members, Dr Y.H. Venus Lun, Dr Kee-hung Lai, and Prof. T.C. Edwin Cheng, have co-authored a book, entitled *Shipping and Logistics Management*. The term “shipping” has evolved from its original relationship to ships and seaborne trade, to encompass any mode of transport that moves goods between two points.

The implication of the extended meaning of “shipping” is that the shipping industry has become more complex, as well as more dynamic. Against the background of a global business environment, this book explains how the shipping market functions, examining the strategic and operational issues that affect entrepreneurs in this industry. The authors discuss global trends and strategies in the shipping business, looking at the role of logistics service providers and at how the use of information technology can help shipping operations.

The review above is extracted from *UNCTAD Transport Newsletter No. 45* of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Read via SpringerLink:

<http://www.springer.com/engineering/production+eng/book/978-1-84882-996-1>



➤ **Special Issue for IAME**

IJSTL has published a special issue comprising selected papers from the International Association of Maritime Economists (IAME) Annual Conference 2010. The theme of the special issue is “Shipping and Transport Logistics in a Changing Economy” in 2011.

IAME 2010 took place on 7-9 July 2010 in Lisbon, Portugal. IAME is an international forum for the exchange of research and information among those interested in maritime and maritime-related issues. IAME conferences are organized every year in a different country to provide an opportunity to share knowledge related to shipping and transport logistics. IAME conferences cover such areas as shipping and port economics, shipping and port finance, maritime and port policies, and logistics management.



The Guest Editors of this Special Issue, Ana Cristina Paixão Casaca, Luís Filipe Duarte and Y.H. Venus Lun, were very grateful for the positive response from the authors who submitted papers and the marvelous support provided by referees in the paper review process. Seven papers went through the review process and were finally selected for publication.

Read the titles of the selected papers:

<http://www.inderscience.com/browse/index.php?journalID=304&year=2011&vol=3&issue=4>