Advancing the theory and practice of excellence in global supply chain management

Our Mission

Established in 1995 and housed within the Graduate School of Business, the Stanford Global Supply Chain Management Forum (“the Forum”) is an international research center that works in partnership with academic, corporate, and nonprofit organizations to advance the theory and practice of supply chain management.

The Forum is actively engaged in identifying, researching, developing, and disseminating best practices in supply chain strategy and execution within the context of a dynamic and increasingly global business environment.

Collaborative, Global Approach

The majority of the Forum’s research is conducted in collaboration with corporate and academic partners.

The Forum has formal partnerships with sister organizations in Europe and Asia: The European Supply Chain Forum at Eindhoven University of Technology in the Netherlands and the Center for Marketing and Supply Chain Management at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). We also work in close collaboration with our colleagues at Stanford Law School and Stanford’s Schools of Humanities & Sciences, Medicine, and Engineering. Forum member companies are integrally involved in many of our cases, events, and research projects.

Holistic Scope

Supply chain strategy is constantly evolving and today’s supply chain executives are responsible for the coordinated function of information, technology, people, and operations processes. The broad scope of these accountabilities informs the Forum’s approach to research on leading edge practices and technologies that enable operational innovation.

Much of our research concentrates on the intersection of strategy and information technology, new approaches to supply chain collaboration, and process optimization. Our Socially and Environmentally Responsible (SER) Supply Chains Program focuses on the development of responsible supplier networks and improvement of operational processes within emerging economies.

Best Practices Dissemination

To share best practices and to stimulate new innovations, the Forum holds events throughout the year. The topics are varied (e.g., sustainable supply chains, data analytics, information technology, supply chain excellence in emerging economies) and supply chain thought leaders from a diverse set of industries are regular participants.
Forum Membership

Stanford invites interested companies to become members of the Forum. Membership is open to industry leaders with a common interest in advancing the state of the art in global supply chain management. Forum members make an annual investment of $35,000. Members of the Forum community are associated with leading supply chain management practitioners and have access to a unique and high-level professional network of supply chain experts.

Membership Benefits

- Participation in the Stanford Initiative for the Study of Supply Chain Responsibility (SISSCR)
- Attendance for up to three company employees at each event organized by the Forum
- Two guest tickets to be shared with customers or partners for each event organized by the Forum
- Discounted attendance at events co-sponsored by the Forum with other Stanford organizations
- Complimentary attendance at events organized by our sister supply chain Forums at Hong Kong University and Eindhoven University
- Electronic proceedings from Forum events
- Sponsorship—at no additional cost—of student field study projects as part of Stanford’s graduate curriculum in supply chain management
- Access to research, papers, cases, and technical materials developed through the Forum and affiliated departments within Stanford University
- The opportunity to guide the future direction of the Forum’s teaching, research and industry relationships
- Discounted attendance at the GSB’s Supply Chain Executive Education programs

Research in Partnership with Stanford

Member companies with interests in specific areas of research may choose to partner with Forum faculty and staff on research projects and programs. These projects range from small scale (e.g., one student working for 10 weeks to resolve a specific supply chain issue) to quite large (e.g., a PhD dissertation project over the course of several years).

Join the Forum

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