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Optimizing a Supply Network with Production Smoothing, Freight Expediting and Safety Stocks: An Analysis of Tactical Trade-Offs

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Highlights

- We consider the common tactics in mitigating demand variability for a supply chain
- We study the tactics of production smoothing, freight expediting and safety stocks
- We develop an integrated approach in coordinating the deployment of these tactics
- The model evaluates “expediting *versus* safety stock” under the effect of smoothing
- We show that downstream freight expediting is crucial if smoothing is performed

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